

# Orange Town News



Orange's Exclusive Newspaper  
Mailed Free To Every Home & Business in Orange

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FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021



## Fred Wolfe Park Project Moves Forward

*Playground Committee Presents First Draft*

BY BETTINA THIEL  
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Orange Playground Committee, on June 14, held an open forum at High Plains Community Center gym, to inform interested residents about the ideas the committee is entertaining to create an inclusive playground at Fred Wolfe Park, and at the same time to get some input as to what families would like to see in that location. But instead of getting feedback on the proposal, they heard mostly about concerns regarding security and traffic,

and questions about the plans for the park in general.

The forum was a first step in reaching out to the public with a plan, said committee chairman Travis Ewen. He said his group is charged to “create a destination playground for all ages and all abilities. “We want it to reflect the Town of Orange and to strengthen our sense of community,” he said.

Serving on the playground committee are Travis Ewen, a landscape

See “Park” On Page 26



Ronstadt Revue Featuring “Gesenia”

## “Ronstadt Revue” Featured for Labor Day Concert & Fireworks

The Town of Orange may be small in population, but it gained the reputation for bringing in topflight bands and one of the best fireworks displays in the New Haven County.

For this year’s Labor Day Concert, the Orange Town News, who is once again producing the event, is present-

See “Concert” On Page 11

## School’s Out and The Carnival Is Coming to Town

BY BETTINA THIEL  
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

After months of uncertainty, the countdown has started for the Orange Volunteer Firemen’s Carnival, which will open on Thursday, August 5 and run until Sunday, August 8 at the fairgrounds behind the High Plains Community Center. “As of right now, it’s a full go for the Carnival, with no Covid restrictions,” said event chairman Don Foyer. That includes no restrictions

on rides, a full-service food tent and fireworks on Friday and Saturday night.

Wristbands for the rides can be purchased on the Volunteer Fire Department’s website, <https://www.orangevfd.org/>. They are \$30, and are good for the day except for Saturday, when people can ride either 12-4 p.m. or 4 to midnight. Wristbands will be sold until Tuesday, August 3, he said.

See “Carnival” On Page 4



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**6th Prize** - \$500 Apple iPad WiFi, 128GB - Best Buy, 53 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT • **7th Prize** - \$400 Gift Card - ShopRite, 935 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT

**8th Prize** - \$400 Gift Card - The Orange Ale House, 517 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT • **9th Prize** - \$250 Gift Card - Knights, Inc., 286 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT

**10th Prize** - \$200 Gift Card - Home Depot, 440 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT • **11th Prize** - \$150 Gift Card - Outback Steakhouse, 132 Marsh Hill Road, Orange, CT

### LOCATIONS TO PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS

**People's Bank**  
653 Orange Center Road,  
Orange, CT

**First Selectman's Office**  
Orange Town Hall  
M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**Knight's Power Equipment**  
286 Boston Post Road  
M-F 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM;  
Saturday 8:30 AM - 12 Noon

**Chip's Family Restaurant**  
321 Boston Post Road  
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**Orange Firemen's Carnival**  
Orange Fairgrounds  
during Carnival Hours

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Regina Sauer

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# Great Results for New Money and Refunding Bond Sales

Town officials here announced excellent results from Wednesday's \$8.6 million taxable new money bond sale, along with a \$4.715 million tax-exempt refunding bond sale, both of which yielded competitive interest rates on the strength of strong reviews from S&P Global Ratings, one of the three major Wall Street Rating Agency firms.

"It is great to see these results and the fact that our bonds were in such a high demand," said First Selectman Jim Zeoli. "With the rates as low as they are right now, this will help keep the debt burden on the taxpayers as low as possible."

The Town received a total of four bids on the New Money Bonds, with Morgan Stanley & Co. submitting the winning bid. Morgan Stanly beat out BOK Financial, Robert W. Baird and Roosevelt & Cross to get the award.

The interest rates bid on those 20-year bonds, referred to as the "Series A" bonds, ranged from a winning bid of 2.05% to a high bid of 2.46%. The winning bid was very aggressive and beat out the second-place bid by 8 basis points (0.08). The bonds will provide the financing for the purchase of Racebrook Country Club which has been approved earlier this year.

The Town was also able to enter the market to refinance bonds that were originally issued at higher rates in 2012 and 2013 with the Series B Bonds. By refinancing those older bonds, the Town was able to save over \$570,000 in interest costs on the remaining 13-year term of those bonds. Robert W. Baird & Co. provided the lowest interest rate on this issue, coming in at 0.99% on the bonds. The rate

is much lower than the Series A bonds since these bonds are tax-exempt, but also because they have a shorter term than the 20-year new money bonds. Its bid was also aggressive and won by 6 basis points. It was a tightly contested competitive sale with rates from the second to fifth place bid being only 8 basis points (0.08%) apart.

"The great results were driven not only by the historically low municipal rate environment we are experiencing right now but also by the Town's exceptional credit ratings and prudent long term financial management of the Town," said Matthew Spoerndle, senior managing director of Phoenix Advisors and Orange's municipal advisor. "The rating agencies continue to recognize the work town officials have done to keep Orange's fiscal health strong over the years."

In spite of clear macroeconomic challenges related to the pandemic, S&P affirmed Orange's "AAA" rating, which is the highest rating available. Within the report, S&P referenced the Town's "very strong economy...which we consider broad and diverse" noting the Town's grand list growth and continued commercial activity. Also noted was the "very strong liquidity and strong budgetary performance" along with a "very strong debt profile" and noted the Town's stable financial operations and low unemployment rate.

Finally, S&P mentioned that it views management as "strong, with good financial policies and practices" under its Financial Management Assessment.

The settlement date for the sale is June 11, 2021, after which the funds become available to the Town.



"Carnival" From Page 1

In addition, people can buy raffle tickets on the OVFD website. Raffle tickets also have been mailed out to Orange residents and are available for purchase at the Town Hall, at Knights Power Equipment, and at Orange Fire Station 2 on the Boston Post Road. The first prize is \$10,000 in cash; second prize, \$5,000; third prize, \$3,000. Fourth prize is a \$2,500 gift certificate to Anytime Fitness, 560 Boston Post Road; fifth prize is a \$1,200 gift certificate to Diamond Designs, 500 Boston Post Road; sixth prize is a \$500 Apple Ipad from Best Buy. Seventh prize is a

\$400 gift card to ShopRite, 935 Boston Post Road; eighth prize is a \$400 gift card to the Orange Ale House; ninth prize is a \$250 gift card to Knight's; tenth prize a \$200 gift card to Home Depot; and the eleventh prize is a \$150 gift card to Outback Steakhouse. The drawing will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 8.

"We are excited that they are going to have the Carnival this year," said First Selectman Jim Zeoli. "It's a major fundraiser for the Volunteer Fire Department." The event goes way back, he said, having been canceled only twice that he knew of, one of which was last year due to the Covid pandemic.







ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



Holy Infant Women’s Guild Awards Scholarships

Each year the Holy Infant Women’s Guild awards scholarships to well-rounded young ladies from the parish who have made a difference in their community through volunteering their time. This year’s winners of \$1,000.00 each are Annie Driscoll and Kiera Bova.

Annie is an Amity graduate. She has been a reader for mass and has been very active with Midnight Run. She also developed a backpack project and found inexpensive ways to get essentials to fill the backpacks for the homeless. She was active with New Beginnings Club at Amity which held fundraisers in support of the women’s shelter in New Haven. She has been involved with the Girl Scouts for 13 years doing various community service projects. Annie will attend Pace University in the fall.

Kiera is an amity graduate. She has been active with Midnight Run through Holy Infant making sandwiches for the homeless. At Amity she has been involved with the Summer Sidekicks program which pairs volunteer students with special needs students to work together on academic work, daily living skills and social activities. She was also a member of the Future Business Leaders of America Club and studies piano. She will attend Iona College in the fall.

Notice To Former Amity Students

Amity Regional School District #5, as per state guidelines, is properly disposing of student special education records. The records of any student who has received special services are maintained for six years after their class graduates.

Former Amity students who were born between 1995-1997 and/or having graduated in 2015 who have received special services at the Amity Middle School, Orange; Amity Middle School, Bethany; or Amity Regional High School may obtain their special education records. You must call 203-397-4820 prior to claiming records in order to allow sufficient time to retrieve your records from our archives and schedule a time for pick up.

If you wish to obtain records, please call 203-397-4820 and leave a detailed message with student name, date of birth and a phone number. If records are not claimed by June 30, 2021, they will be destroyed.

**Attention Teachers!**

We want to know what’s going on in your classroom!  
Let us know about any fun activities or holiday projects.

You can also send us your pictures.  
*(Parental consent required)*

Orange Town News  
P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 • edit@OrangeTownNews.com

Welander Champions School-Based Mental Health Legislation

Representative Mary Welander (D-Orange/Derby/Woodbridge), Vice Chair of the Children’s Committee, has championed the passage of HB 6509, “An Act Concerning School-Based Mental Health Clinics.” The Connecticut House voted 143 to 4 in strong bipartisan support to pass this legislation.

“Providing access to mental health services for students is more important now than ever. Throughout the past few years, psychologists and physicians have noted a rise in anxiety and depression among youths, and the pandemic has only exacerbated this,” said Rep. Welander. “It is critical to the success and overall health of children across the state that we remove as many barriers as possible that prevent access to these services. When students receive access to early intervention services, we protect them from unnecessary trauma and create healthier school communities. I would like to thank the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Public Health, the Connecticut Association of School-Based Health Centers, Representative Linehan, Chair of the Children’s Committee, and Minority Leader Candelora for their support in the passage of this legislation. I am incredibly grateful that we are taking this step to address this issue”.

This bill will assess where student access to mental health services isn’t readily available across the state, and will create a plan for school districts to follow if they choose to address any identified gaps in services by developing either a school-based mental health clinic or a full school-based health center. This legislation will also identify potential state and federal funding options, and allows clinic staff to participate in social-emotional learning professional development offered by the school districts to cultivate a comprehensive understanding of the school climate within that building.

According to the CDC, the proportion of children’s mental health-related Emergency Department visits increased 24% for children ages 5-11 and 31% for children ages 12-17 from April 2020 through October 2020. “Connecticut Children’s Hospital continues to see similar increases of behavioral health patients in their emergency department. With this rise in childhood depression and anxiety, creating clear pathways to these services is vitally important for the children and families of Connecticut,” said Rep. Welander.

Due to its importance, language from this legislation may also be incorporated in SB 1, “An Act Equalizing Comprehensive Access to Mental, Behavioral and Physical Health Care in Response to the Pandemic.”

2021 Howard Jacobson Scholarship Award

CAC Area 2 will bestow a scholarship in memory of former longtime Chairperson Howard Jacobson. One high school or college student studying film, mass communications, and television or media studies will receive \$500 to help further their studies.

The Cable Advisory Council of Area 2, which serves the towns of Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange and Woodbridge promotes quality Community Access Television. The Council is an ongoing asset for Cable Area 2 with the support of Altice/Cablevision.

Scholarship Qualifications & Criteria - Applicants must be able to prove: They currently reside, and/or are students attending high school, community college, college, or university in one of the six CAC area towns: Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange or Woodbridge.

They have a declared major in the mass communications, or media studies. Along with pursuing a career in this field, they are taking classes or engaged in independent studies.

They are in good standing with their academic institution.

They must submit a short essay under 500 words describing their creative coursework, portfolio or project and how it relates to this scholarship award. Supplemental links to media projects are welcome.

The winner will be selected on the basis of their overall academic performance, portfolio and their personal statement.

Deadline to apply is June 30, 2021. To apply, please email: info@ca-carea2.com.

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ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



# RBS Holds “Handing Off” Flag Bearer Ceremony

On June 8, 2021, Race Brook School (RBS) had a “handing off” ceremony between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Flag Bearers. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade flag bearers, who left RBS at the end of the week, showed the new 5<sup>th</sup> grade flag bearers how to unfold, put up, take down, and refold the flag. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders who were chosen had to complete an application, explaining how they are responsible, respectful, and safe, and how they will incorporate those

qualities into being a flag bearer for the 2021-2022 school year.

The outgoing 6<sup>th</sup> grade flag bearers are Riya Patel, Gabriella Belizaire, Ian Olszewski, Mariam Basyouny (not pictured), Angelina DiNicola, and Isabella Saldibar (not pictured).

The new 5<sup>th</sup> grade flag bearers are Luke Richard, Cooper Ryan, Brynn Eichler, Alaa Almashi, Riannie DeJesus Vazquez, Brennan Wynne, Emma Mathew, and Jessica Emmens.

# Summer School Program to Focus on Learning Loss

By MELISSA NICEFARO  
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Orange school district is meeting a strong interest from families for an extended summer school program head on and is preparing to accommodate around 300 students. Summer learning opportunities will be supported by federal ESSER funds - the district received \$164,000 in these emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation. The funds are available until September 2023.

“This grant will be used to address learning loss among students,” explained Mike Gray, director of buildings and operations for Orange schools. “It can be used for purchasing educational technology, providing mental health services and supports, school facility repairs and improvements to reduce the risk of virus transmission or improve indoor air quality as well as other operations necessary to maintain the continuity of services.”

Evelyn Russo, director of curriculum/instruction & personnel explained at a recent Board of Education meeting that prior to the end of the school year, the district shared a summer learning interest survey with all families. “I am so excited to say that we have 250 students interested in coming to summer school. When we take into account the incoming kindergarteners and that number might be 50 additional students, and with 50 coming from the extended school year (ESY) program, we might have 350 coming to summer school,” she said.

Traditionally summer learning was

8:30 to 11:30 weekday mornings, and this summer, the district is adding flexibility so that students can come for one, two or three hours. The program runs July 6 through August 5. New to the program this year are courses in art, technology, physical education, inventions, yoga, meditation and a few others, in addition to the traditional reading and math offerings.

“We are excited to design the program to meet the needs of the children who are coming. We feel that with the survey results, we have a good handle on those needs in addition to our data-driven information from our SRBI meetings, which are scientifically research-based intervention meetings that are critical for the use of some of the ESSER funds,” Russo said.

The program will include a kindergarten readiness program offered to every incoming kindergartener, so that they can prepare to hit the ground running in September. Alongside the traditional summer school program, the special education department is responsible for ESY programming each year. The program, based on students’ individual education plans, runs synchronously with the summer school program.

The new program was met with high accolades from Board of Education member Betty Hadlock, who said, “I just want to share how delighted I am that so many parents responded to the survey and that they’ve expressed interest. Last month, I talked about the fact that offering extended opportunities for students of all levels would be important, so thank you for taking that on.”

STUDENT NEWS

**Achievements**  
*Amity Regional School District #5*

Orange, CT - Nolan Young was recently presented with a South Central Area Superintendent’s Association award in recognition of his community service, academic prowess, and leadership in the school community. Nolan will be a senior at Amity Regional High School in the fall.

**Dean’s List**  
*Connecticut College*

New London, CT - The following Orange students have been named to the Connecticut College dean’s list for the 2021 spring semester: Emily Berkeley, 2023, Dean’s High Honors,

Psychology; Lien Har, 2023, Dean’s Honors, Computer Science; and Henry Westgard, 2024, Dean’s High Honors, Music.

**Elon University**

Shayna Goldblatt has been named to the Dean’s List for the 2021 spring semester at Elon University. The Dean’s List is composed of students with no grade below a B-minus and a grade point average of at least 3.50 in a minimum of 12 semester hours. Goldblatt is the daughter of Mr. Mitchell R. Goldblatt and Mrs. Abby L. Goldblatt of Orange, CT.

**Endicott College**

Beverly, MA - Endicott College, the

first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is pleased to announce its Spring 2021 Dean’s List students. In order to qualify for the Dean’s List, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below “C” have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester. Carly Marchitto of Orange, CT, is among those named to the Dean’s List at Endicott College for the Spring 2021 semester. Marchitto is majoring in Nursing and is the daughter of Estelle Marchitto and Carl Marchitto.

**Fairfield University**

Fairfield, CT - The following Orange Fairfield University students received

Dean’s List Honors for the Spring 2021 semester: Katie Barretta, Michael Bier, Taylor Choe, Rossington Deck, Mary Foley, Michael Holloway, Christina Skerritt, and Jared Smith. In order to be placed on the Dean’s List, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours in a semester, have no outstanding or incomplete grades for that semester, and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better.

**Quinnipiac University**

Hamden, CT - The following students received degrees from Quinnipiac University during commencement.

See “Student News” On Page 9



ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



Some 40 speakers came to speak to the Amity Board of Education June 14 about racism, sexism and what to do about it. Only 11 had time to speak, while the others followed from an overflow area.

# 'Acts Of Hate Have Defined My Amity Experience'

Students, Parents Urge Amity Board to Embrace Diversity

**BY BETTINA THIEL**  
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

A group of current and former Amity students and parents addressed the Amity Board of Education at its June 14 meeting to impress upon board members, the administration and the public at large how many students struggle with a lack of acceptance and acts of bullying at the school, and they generally described their Amity experience as being unwelcoming, to say the least.

"Amity is a place of peace and harmony, but right now, Amity does not feel like that," said one student when addressing the board during public comment.

A student from Orange talked about the name calling he endured throughout his school years, including racial and sexual slurs. "I feel unwanted and unsafe," he said, adding, "I want change for the better. I don't want an apology and I don't want pity. I want change."

One parent spoke up for his daughter currently enrolled at the school. He said when she reported repeated racist comments to the administration, she felt they did not believe her, not until she provided proof in the form of a screenshot.

Kim Franklin of Woodbridge read a letter from her sister Tatiana, a 2005 Amity graduate, and currently a public defender in California, talking about her Amity experience. While in high school she experienced daily micro-aggressions and insults, she wrote. Although she was the captain of the track team and counted many friends among her classmates, she still felt lonely and isolated. When she had a falling-out with a friend, that friend used skin color to hurt her. "When she became mad at me, she used my blackness against me," she wrote. "I was told I was 'undatable' because I was black. I grew up believing I wasn't as smart as my classmates." When she was accepted at the University of Michigan – a prestigious academic institution - she felt she had to immediately back up that information by listing all her achievements as if to justify the admission. "It left me in an identity crisis," she wrote.

Parent Joseph Ross said his children's school career started happily at Beecher Road School's Multi-Age Program, where teachers and parents emphasize the value of diversity. But as they entered the Amity system, "each successive year resemble less this ideal

school environment," he said, saying they experienced racism, sexism, anti-semitism and the frequent use of the N word, even in the presence of teachers. He said that bullying happens not only against black students, but female students as well.

Erin Williamson, a Beecher School parent and member of the Beecher Diversity Committee, said what the Amity board heard that night was just the tip of the iceberg. "For every student that talked tonight there are 20 who didn't," she said.

The reason was not for a lack of interest. About 40 people attended the meeting, which took place at the Orange campus, but the group received a note from the superintendent ahead of the meeting that they would have 20 minutes of public comment, with each speaker allotted 3 minutes. In the end, about 11 went to the podium to speak. The others were seated in an overflow room.

"You heard today that these issues happen on a daily basis," Williamson said to the board. "This is a pervasive problem, a systemic problem."

"[Reading] a book is great. Having a plaque is great," she said, referring to initiatives the district has taken re-

cently to increase awareness of equity, diversity and inclusion at the school. "But that's not what we need. What we need is professional development for our superintendent, for our principal, our teachers. What we need is a board that clearly states what their expectations are for our superintendent and our teachers. We need accountability."

As a Beecher parent, she said she has experienced what can happen when a board communicates clearly to the superintendent that this is an area of interest. For the new Woodbridge superintendent, who joined the district last December, this issue will be a strategic priority, she said.

Several TV news organizations were present, Channel 12, Eyewitness News, Fox 61, and the local NBC affiliate, and reported on the concerns expressed by the students. With the television cameras trimmed on her, Amity School Supt. Dr. Jennifer Byars welcomed their suggestions and expressed openness to change. "I see tonight as pivotal, she said, as it gave her the chance to hear students' concerns. "Outside of this meeting, no one has yet reached out to my office to speak to me, but I

See "Amity" On Page 9



ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP

“Amity” From Page 8

am ready to keep listening, as are all administrators,” she said. “I want to work with parents, students and faculty to address the reality that students do feel unwelcome at Amity,” she said.

She mentioned a number of measures the district has implemented in the last few months, including adopting a policy for minority recruitment. She said the administration participated in a book study this year and engaged in Courageous Conversations, a protocol devised specifically to support interracial dialogue and thereby affecting change. One outcome of those conversations was the choice of the social justice theme for the One-Book-One Amity read this summer. Explaining and defending the choice of that theme became in itself a Courageous Conversation, she said.

Sage Paglia, who represents the Black Student Union, had very concrete suggestions for the administration to improve the situation. “I’d like to see more collaboration with students of color,” he said. “I’d like to see teachers sticking up for students of colors.” Sage also challenged the board to spur changes in curriculum and programming. “You need to...teach history other than from a white perspective.”

The group of students and parents present that night grew out of protest earlier this year over the decision to use a Kanye West video calling for the abolition of Black History Month to celebrate just that month. It seems that the video was shown during Spartan Seminar, but then not discussed any further, for lack of time. The story was picked up by Channel 12 and later by NPR and shone an unflattering light on an otherwise highly regarded school district.

Emily Melnick, one of the organizers, said the group has been meeting weekly since March and has heard from about 60 adults. In addition, the students have organized their own group, which has about 30 members. So far, most of the members are Woodbridge residents, but folks from Orange and Bethany have expressed an interest in starting their own groups in their town.

This is not the first time Amity students protested incidents of discrimination and intolerance. In the fall of 2018, a group of students and parents addressed the Board of Education about rampant antisemitism, a swastika drawn on bathroom walls, even vandalism on private property.

Judy Alpern, CEO of the Jewish

Federation, was one of the speakers last week, reminding the board that there is a history of students who feel bullied and unsafe. “We had such great hope that change would come,” she said. She urged the school administration to take steps that are lasting. “Take back the future of this community, so people of all backgrounds, all ethnicities can feel safe and see a bright future – so that kids never have to confront this again,” she urged the district.

The group of parents had prepared a two-page memo for board members, which outlined not only where they were coming from, but also concrete actions they are hoping to see. These included, for the start of next school year:

1. To designate a safe space for students to go when they need to, with designated/trained/trusted faculty and staff to support students on call / as needed;
2. A new trusted Black Student Union advisor;
3. Work with community leaders to procure or prepare additional professional development programming for faculty/staff regarding racial/cultural sensitivity and competence;
4. To review all disciplinary policies and procedures and faculty/staff training to ensure a safer environment for students of color where racial epithets and harassment are not brushed off.

Further, they would like the district to continue this work during the next school year by:

1. Hiring a consultant to work with the whole school to improve the school climate and culture and identify key areas for systemic change;
2. Forming an Amity Diversity Committee;
3. Planning a robust, positive Black History Month program for all students in consultation with the Black Student Union and Amity Diversity Committee.

And finally, more long-term, to develop and implement a robust plan for recruitment and hiring of teachers of color that includes tracking data of applicants, interviewees, offers, hires and retention; and to hire a new administrator focused on diversity, equity and inclusion.

Dr. Byars did not disagree with the suggestions for change that were presented. “We are fully committed to taking the steps to create the positive, tolerant, and supportive environment that is sought,” she said.

“Student News” From Page 7

ment ceremonies held in May: Kayley Blanchard, Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Administration; Brianna Caruso, Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary Education; Elizabeth Costen, Sixth Year Certificate in Education Leadership; Nicole Gherlone, Doctor of Medicine; Jeffrey Heyn, Master of Business Administration; Philip Marchese, Master of Science in Cyber Security; Danielle Marmer, Master of Science in Public Relations; Melody Moccia, Master of Business Administration; Phillip Nam, Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering; and Samantha Richetelli, Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

**University of New Haven**

West Haven, CT – Jared D. Gabriele of Orange, CT, a student in the Tagliatela College of Engineering at the University of New Haven, has been named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2020 semester and Spring 2021 semester. Jared is working on a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

**William & Mary**

Williamsburg, VA - Emily Bacal from Orange, CT was recently named to the Dean’s List at the College of William & Mary for the spring 2021 semester. In order to achieve Dean’s List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

**Graduations**

**Lynn University**

Alyssa Rose Mencucci graduated from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida on May 15<sup>th</sup>. During her freshman year she was invited into its 3.0 program and completed her undergraduate work in three years. She graduated with a 3.48 GPA and received her BS degree in Psychology. In the fall she will be attending Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach Florida to pursue her masters in Clinical Psychology. She is the daughter of Patricia and John Mencucci from Orange, CT. She graduated from Amity Regional

High School in 2018.

**Sacred Heart University**

Amelia Mary Justo of Orange graduated from Sacred Heart University with a Master’s in Education on May 22, 2021. Amelia was an intern at Turkey Hill School in Orange and did her student teaching there this past school year. Amelia graduated with honors at the University’s 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement Ceremony.

**Sacred Heart University**

Kiersten Keating graduated Magna Cum Laude from Sacred Heart University, Jack Welch College of Business & Technology with a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Marketing and Minor in Digital Marketing, Advertising & PR. Honors College.

**Syracuse University**

Syracuse, NY - Kevin M. Nusdeo of Orange, CT. was among the more than 6,800 candidates for graduation in the Class of 2021 who were celebrated on May 23 during the university’s 150<sup>th</sup> commencement exercise. Nusdeo graduated Cum Laude with dual majors; Forensic Science and Earth Science from the College of Arts and Sciences & Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs.

**University of Scranton**

Scranton, PA - Local residents were among more than 500 master’s and doctoral degrees at an in-person commencement ceremony on May 22 at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza, Wilkes-Barre. Degrees were conferred to graduates who had completed their academic degree requirements in August and December of 2020, as well as January and May of 2021. Students earning master’s and doctoral degrees include the following: Haley A. Forcier earned a Master of Science in occupational therapy and Samantha A. Gaynor earned a Master of Science in occupational therapy.

**William & Mary**

Williamsburg, VA - Emily Bacal from Orange, CT, recently graduated from the College of William & Mary with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Orange Town News

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EDUCATION



Peck Place School: Kalina Duz, Shriya Garg, Enoch Liu, Mia Martire and Michael Baker.



Race Brook School: Ryan Leapley, Jason Chen, Gracie Bunnell, Charlotte Kean and Nikhet Vallabhajosyula.



Turkey Hill School: Ava Storz, Charlotte Wallace, Liisu Melville, Teagan Rahn and McKenna Kirck

The 2020-2021 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Superintendent Award

The 2020-2021 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Superintendent Award recipients from each of the elementary schools in Orange. Above are the names of the students associated with each school standing with Superintendent Dr. Vince Scarpetti with their certificates.

“Letters” From Page 5

Small, from the Parks & Recreation Department, facilitated the planting and hose watering as well as placement of the commemorative marker. A year or so later, we are seeing beautiful results from all the efforts combined, and feel very thankful.

We live in a great town!

Linda Bradford  
Retiring President, The Garden Club of Orange



The Correct History Surrounding Albus the Peacock

After seeing the photo of the peacock taken by a parent at Race Brook School in the recent Orange Town News, I had to share!

My daughter Olivia came home from Race Brook School a few weeks ago talking about a peacock. I have to admit I doubted it and even asked her teacher (Mrs. Martorana, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) who verified that indeed there was a peacock from a local farm that wandered around the neighborhood and had a habit of visiting the school. Then I saw the peacock myself on Russell Ave walking around someone’s property, even jumping up onto the roof! It was quite the sight.

How fun! I’d love to know who he belongs to!

Cheers,  
Stephanie (Nichols-Burns)

Stephanie,  
Thank you for your letter. We were able to get the following information for you.

Orange Town News,

I was unsure who to contact directly, so thought this message would be a good place to start. I am reaching out with concern in my heart for a loved one. The loved one in question? The “wild” peacock that has been recently seen and photographed around Racebrook School. His name is Albus and contrary to what the article that recently came out states, he is NOT wild. He has been a part of our family for over 10 years. His home is a farm on Russell Avenue, and everyone in the neighborhood and surrounding streets knows and loves him. He is well taken care of. The article makes it seem like he has suddenly appeared in the woods by the school in the past few months and does not have a home and could be dangerous since he is “wild”. We have already seen someone in a car look like they were trying to lure him into it (people don’t realize how big he really is) and we are worried about someone else trying to “save” him, take him, or treating him as a pest and hurting him. He is very old for a peacock and any injury to him at this point would be extremely dangerous for him. A broken bone would be a death sentence for him and can be easily caused by someone mishandling him. If you google “orange CT peacock” you can see a bunch of different links about him, some almost 10 years old. He has a large territory that he patrols and sometimes even likes to wander around with a local flock of turkeys. We love him so much! We are not asking for the photo and article to be taken down (because everyone should see how amazing he is!). We would just like for the wording to be changed to reflect the truth- Albus is not new, he has a home, he is not dangerous, and if you see him, he is just passing through and not a threat! Just treat him the same way you would treat a neighbor’s cat passing through your yard or crossing the street. Again, we are worried about the health and safety of our beloved family member and really appreciate anything that can be done to reword the article! Thank you!!

The Ross, Kraft, & Kelemen Families  
Thank you for the clarification regarding Albus and for sharing his beauty with the community. – The Orange Town News





“Concert” From Page 1

ing “Ronstadt Revue” to perform prior to the town’s Labor Day Fireworks Spectacular.

Making its CT debut, RONSTADT REVUE is the ultimate tribute to one of the world’s greatest singers, Ms. Linda Ronstadt. The show features singer, Gesenia and her world-class 6-piece band, who faithfully recreate selections from all phases of Ms. Ronstadt’s career, from Country and Rock, through Mexican/Mariachi, and songs from her three Great American Songbook albums with Nelson Riddle. Don’t miss this chance to relive those special moments with great hits like You’re No Good, When Will I be Loved, Just One Look, Blue Bayou, That’ll be the Day, Perfidia, and many more! Each member of the band is a seasoned, talented musician fully dedicated to recreating the sounds and vibe of a Linda Ronstadt live performance from back in the day. But of course, no Ronstadt tribute band can work without “that voice”. And if you close your eyes, Gesenia will have you believing that Linda really is with us on the stage. Indeed, the group is so authentic and professional that it has been personally endorsed by three of Linda’s own bandmates (two of whom are currently producing the band). Every show has been met with multiple standing ovations and astonished audiences frequently remark that it was one of the best live music shows they have ever experienced.

The Labor Day Concert will take place on Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> (rain date Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at the Orange Fairgrounds, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange.

The festivities will begin promptly at 6:30 pm with welcoming comments from Orange First Selectman Jim Zeoli. The concert will be followed promptly at 9:30 pm by the Labor Day Fireworks Spectacular with Patriotic Music.

Orange Town News publisher and event producer Rocky Salpento said, “We are looking forward to another premiere event for area residents to enjoy. We are excited about producing this show for the ninth consecutive year. We hope everyone continues to enjoy this great community event. Many thanks go out to our sponsors, our first selectman and town officials for their continued support.”

The event is made possible through area sponsors including major sponsors: Yale University, The Orange Foundation’s Olga Fund, The Law Firm of Marino, Zabel & Schellenberg, PLLC, The Orange Town News, The Law Offices of Debra B. Marino, LLC & the Town of Orange.

Popular Food Trucks are being lined up, and novelty items will also be available for purchase at the fairgrounds beginning at 6:00 pm. A WPLR radio personality will also be on location. Come early and get a good seat. Admission is free. There will be a suggested parking donation of \$5 that will benefit the Orange Little League.

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The Orange Historical Society

Below are just a few of the wonderful things for sale that can be seen Saturdays from 10-3 at 605 Orange Center Road.

Come browse in the museum and the “furniture barn” out back.



For information call 203-795-3106



# LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP



## Regional Properties Group Honored

Coldwell Banker Realty in Connecticut and Westchester County, New York is proud to announce that Regional Properties Group, a sales team affiliated with the company’s Orange Post Road office, has earned a prestigious spot on the 2021 REAL Trends The Thousand list as published in The Wall Street Journal. This ranking places Regional Properties Group within “the top one-tenth of 1% of more than 1.4 million licensed Realtors® nationwide,” per REAL Trends.

REAL Trends ranked Regional Properties Group No. 62 on the list of the top small-sized real estate teams in the U.S. based on achieving 223.7 transaction sides totaling \$57,193,066 in 2020. Regional Properties Group was also named Connecticut’s No. 1 real estate team on the Real Trends America’s Best list based on closed transaction sides and ranked No. 9 in closed sales volume.

Regional Properties Group is led by Nick Mastrangelo and includes Mike Sirochman, Toni Ross and Cindy Sloan. “I am excited to congratulate Regional Properties Group on this impressive recognition. Nick and his team have proven themselves to be among the top tier of real estate professionals throughout the New Haven County area and the entire nation. This honor is a result of the hard work and expertise that Regional Properties Group brings to every transaction,” said Joe Valvano, president of Coldwell Banker Realty in Connecticut and Westchester

County, New York.

The REAL Trends The Thousand ranking consists of all real estate agents and teams throughout the United States who took part in residential real estate transactions in 2020. The individual rankings are divided into two top 250 categories, based on closed transaction sides and closed sales volume. To qualify, an individual agent had to close at least 50 transaction sides or \$20 million in sales volume in 2020. For real estate teams, the minimum was 75 transaction sides or \$30 million in closed sales volume. Teams are ranked by closed transaction sides and closed sales volume, divided by the sizes small, medium, large and mega.

Regional Properties Group was the No. 1 sales team at Coldwell Banker Realty in Connecticut and Westchester County, New York for 2020 based on total units sold, and ranked No. 3 in gross commission income. The team was honored with the Coldwell Banker International President’s Elite Award for 2020, placing them within the top 10% of approximately 3,200 Coldwell Banker Realty sales teams in the U.S. and Canada.

*For more information about buying or selling a home, contact Regional Properties Group at 203-641-2100 (mobile), 203-795-6000 (office) or Nick. Mastrangelo@cbmoves.com. Coldwell Banker Realty is located at 236 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT 06477.*



## Amity Physical Therapy Brings Pain Relief To Milford

One of the area’s most prominent physical therapy practices in Southern Connecticut, Amity Physical Therapy, is opening its fourth office at 135 Cherry Street in Milford on July 5th.

Founded 16 years ago by Michael Dow MSPT, the practice has expanded its offices from Woodbridge, Hamden, and Branford and is now establishing a footprint in Milford.

Dow, who received his degree in physical therapy from Sacred Heart University personally involves himself in the design, interior motif as well as specifying the cutting edge PT equipment that distinguishes all his offices. He spares no expense to make his facilities comfortable, informal ... a relaxed “at home” environment that helps the healing process for each patient.

His staff is hand-picked from the most talented and compassionate professionals in the area. Most therapists have doctorate degrees and wide experience in patient care ranging in age from pediatrics to geriatrics.

Dow takes great pride in his long relationships with many area orthopedic surgeons helping their patients move from pre-op to post-op with outstanding rehabilitation treatment.

The new Milford office will be maintained with every strict protocol mandated by the CDC even during this period of relaxed restrictions. Therapy tables, rooms, and equipment are all sanitized after each session. Personal one-on-one treatment of all patients is Dow’s doctrine. “There are no clocks here,” he commented. “We provide the finest care, whether you’re in rehab from joint surgery or see us for a simple sprain. Our goal is to return each patient to normal activity quickly and with full range of motion.”

The new office will be supervised by Peter Geloso DPT, a longtime therapist with Amity Physical Therapy, who received his doctorate degree from Elon University in North Carolina. Geloso is also a ranking competitive cyclist in New England racing circles. Peter can be reached at 203-693-2350 or visit [www.amitypt.com](http://www.amitypt.com)

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# ARTS & LEISURE



## An Afternoon of Irish Blarney

The Friends of the Case Memorial Library is presenting a program of Irish songs, stories and humor performed by Tom O'Carroll on July 11 (rain date July 25) at 2:00pm outdoors on the Prown Terrace at the rear of the library.

Originally from Dublin, Tom accompanies his vocals on guitar, a bodhran (Irish goat skin drum) and a humble instrument called a tin whistle which he describes as "a little horn with six holes in it. You puff in one end and sometimes music occurs."

Tom has been sharing songs of the Emerald Isle since the 1970s. He says he can't learn a song without knowing its background. When he performs, he

says a few words to set a scene, so the experience is meaningful to listeners. Tom has been a featured performer in libraries, colleges, festivals, concerts and pubs throughout the U.S., Canada, and even in Seoul, Korea. His audiences are sure to be delighted by a variety of musical sounds and songs interspersed with anecdotes about Irish history, culture, folklore and genealogy.

The program is open to the public. Registration is required and may be made online at [www.casememorial-library.org/events](http://www.casememorial-library.org/events) or by calling 203-891-2170. Guests are asked to follow the state mandate for masks and social distancing and to bring beach chairs.



## Annual Milford Oyster Festival Announces 2021 Headline Bands

The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Milford Oyster Festival is excited to welcome Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes for a fun afternoon of great music bringing The Jersey Shore sound to Milford, Connecticut on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

"The Committee is excited to be moving forward with this year's festival. It will be a fun filled two days

of great music, food and fun that we have all been looking forward to" says Festival President Ila Tokarz.

John Lyon, aka Southside Johnny, has long been considered the Godfather of the New Jersey Sound rocking audiences since the mid-70s. Born and raised on the Jersey Shore to a musical family, he grew up listening to great music and it shows.

## Goodman Performing Arts Center's Eighth Annual Dance Team Audition

Announcing Goodman Performing Arts Center's eighth annual Dance Team audition on July 28, 2021, at 200 Boston Post Road, Orange CT, 06477.

Goodman Performing Arts Center is currently accepting new candidates for the upcoming competition season, ages 5 and up are invited to audition. Placement is determined by our faculty, based on age technical ability, previous training, and overall attitude.

Attendees will audition to compete on the GPAC All-Star's Award-Winning Competitive Dance Team. Throughout the competition season the dancers will build their repertoire in group numbers and selected solo routines. The mandatory weekly rehearsals not only focus on dance technique but performance showmanship.

Dance team members progress at an accelerated level, by way of more classes,

intense training, private lessons, and more. It is our belief that being part of a team promotes values such as responsibility, dependability, and comradery. Team members must be able to compete in tap, jazz, contemporary, and lyrical styles. The audition is open to the public and previous team members; pre-registration is required by all auditionees.

Goodman Performing Arts Center is in its 25<sup>th</sup> year of dance education and

offers a wide variety of dance classes for all ages. We were recently awarded National Grand Champion title and received the distinguished honor of "Studio of Excellence".

We hope you will join the GPAC All-Star's team this season, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Goodman Performing Arts Center at [info@goodmanperformingartscenter.com](mailto:info@goodmanperformingartscenter.com) or call 203-799-7950.





# TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES



## Cause Of Orange House Fire Under Investigation

Fire officials in Orange are continuing their investigation of a housefire that broke out on the night of June 10<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department received the alarm just before 9 p.m., said Fire Chief Vaughan Dumas. First arriving firefighters reported that fire was visible in the bedroom window in the left front corner of the home at 467 Ridgeway Road.

“Firefighters made entry to the home and knocked the fire down quickly,” said Dumas. “It was under control a little after 9 p.m. Their aggressive attack prevented the fire from spreading beyond the bedroom and its contents.”

The chief added that the entire home received smoke damage. He estimated damage to the house to be about \$200,000.

The homeowner was examined for smoke inhalation by EMS providers from American Medical Response but was not treated or transported. There were no injuries.

Fire Marshal James Vincent said the cause of the fire is still under investigation, but improperly discarded smoking materials are believed to play an accidental role in the ignition of the

fire. He added that there were working smoke detectors in the house.

The Woodbridge Fire Department sent apparatus to the town in case of another incident, and members of the Orange Police Department were on scene to lend assistance.

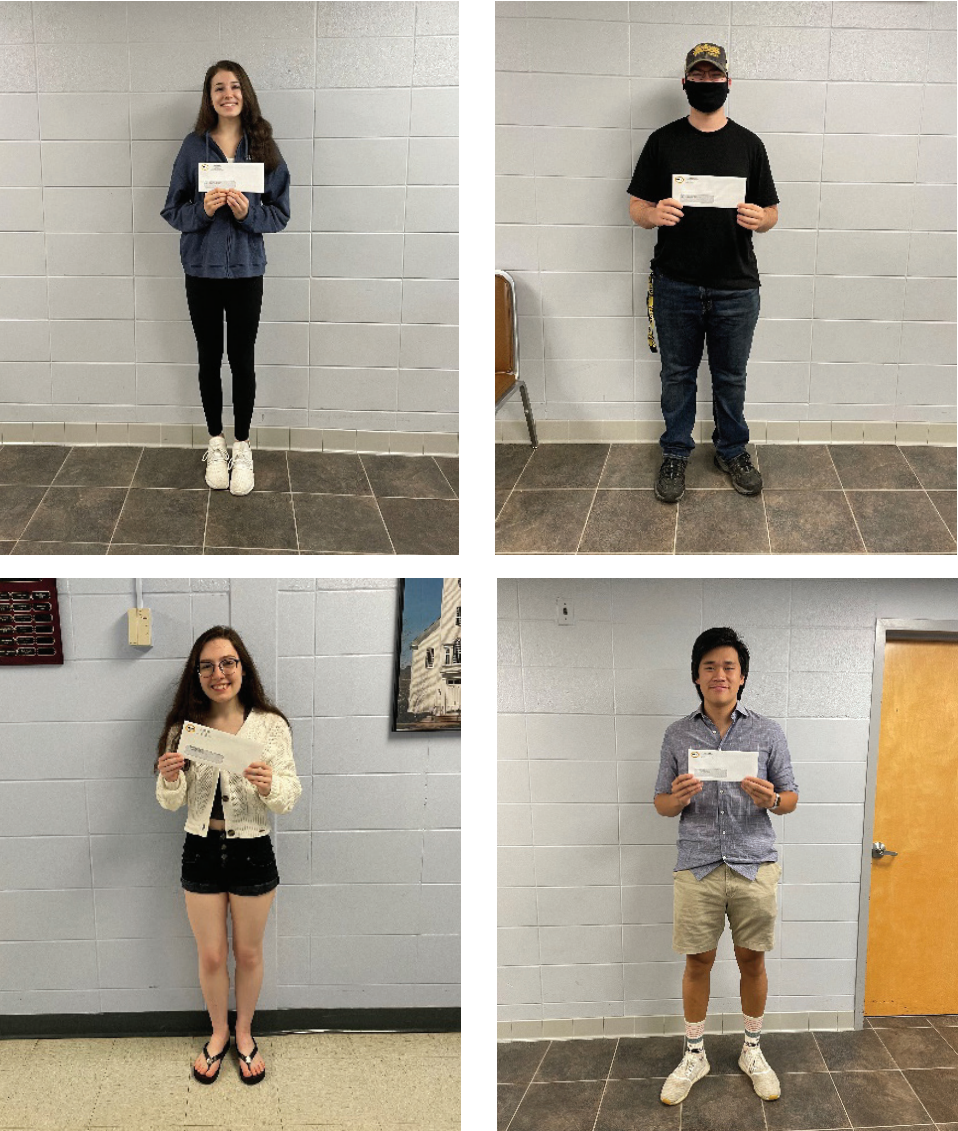
The Orange Volunteer Fire Association provides fire protection to residents and businesses in Orange and, through mutual aid, surrounding towns. Members receive training in fire suppression, rescue, hazardous materials response, homeland security issues and other emergency services.

Operating strictly with revenues from fundraisers and donations, the Orange Volunteer Fire Department is one of the remaining few all-volunteer incorporated fire departments in Connecticut. Active members are on-call to serve the community on a 24-hour/seven-day basis, responding from stations on Orange Center Road and Boston Post Road.

In addition, the fire company offers public education services including lectures, demonstrations and training. For information about membership, donations or public education, call (203) 891-4703, click on [www.orangevfd.org](http://www.orangevfd.org) or find us on Facebook.

## Youth Services

BY JESSICA SIMONE, MSW, ORANGE YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR




## Orange Youth Services Scholarship

Four Orange high school seniors have been chosen to receive the Orange Youth Services Scholarship of \$1,000 each. These students were chosen based on their academic achievement, extracurricular activities, volunteer involvement and future endeavors. Jason Chung will be attending Cornell University – School of Engineering, Annie Driscoll will be attending Pace University, Wil Gambardella will be attending Quinnipiac University and Ella Benjamin will be attending the University of Connecticut. Congratulations and good luck to all the recipients!





### Town of Orange Meetings for the Month of July 2021



(Subject to Change, Check with Town Clerk's Office, 203-891-4730)

6 <sup>th</sup>	Town Plan & Zoning Comm .....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
7 <sup>th</sup>	Conservation Comm .....	7:00 pm	HPCC
	Country Fair Cmte .....	7:30 pm	Exhibit Hall
8 <sup>th</sup>	OGAT .....	7:30 pm	Town Hall
12 <sup>th</sup>	Zoning Board of Appeals .....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
13 <sup>th</sup>	Inland Wetlands Comm .....	7:30 pm	Town Hall
14 <sup>th</sup>	Board of Selectmen .....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
19 <sup>th</sup>	Traffic Authority .....	4:30 pm	Police Dept.
	Board of Police Comm .....	4:30 pm	Police Dept.
	Orange Board of Education .....	7:00 pm	Mary L. Tracy
	Board of Finance .....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
21 <sup>st</sup>	Recycling Cmte .....	7:00 pm	HPCC
	CERT .....	7:00 pm	HPCC
22 <sup>nd</sup>	WPCA .....	6:00 pm	Town Hall
28 <sup>th</sup>	Park & Recreation Comm .....	7:30 pm	Town Hall

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# Goodman Performing Arts Center

## Open House Event



**Open House**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 21<sup>st</sup>  
1:00 - 4:00pm

Please join us for a fun and relaxing day of dance exploration.

The day will include:

- Dance demonstrations held every half hour
- Prize Wheel
- Cooling summer refreshments
- And much more!

*Open House Special*  
**Early Registration**  
**Discounts for Fall**  
**Classes!**

**Become a member of our Award-Winning Dance Team!**  
**Audition July 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**\*Registration Required\***

**FOR MORE DETAILS:**  
CALL 203-799-7950  
OR  
EMAIL [info@goodmanperformingartscenter.com](mailto:info@goodmanperformingartscenter.com)

**Inquire About Summer Offerings!**

- Summer Dance Camps July 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>
- Extended August Session August 2<sup>nd</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>
- August Weekly Ballet Intensives

Fall Session Starts Monday, September 13th

Event will be held outdoors to accommodate all guests. We kindly ask that all attendees wear a mask inside for the performances.

200 Boston Post Road Suite 8 Orange, CT 06477 / 203-799-7950  
[info@goodmanperformingartscenter.com](mailto:info@goodmanperformingartscenter.com)



Congratulations to the 4s class at OCNS class of 2021! We are so very proud of you!



OCNS 5s kindergarten readiness class getting ready for their showcase rodeo. Congratulations to the graduates! We are so proud of you!

“Independence is happiness.” — SUSAN B. ANTHONY

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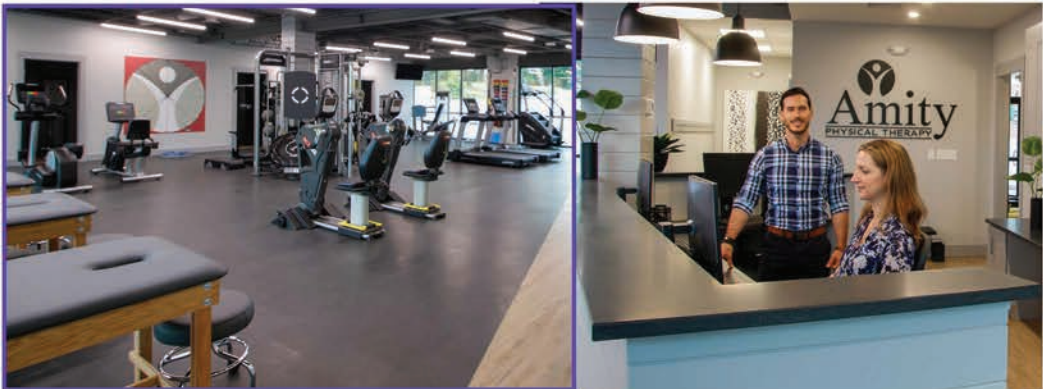
# Pain Relief for Milford!

## Amity Physical Therapy Opens July 5th


Southern Connecticut's most acclaimed and award-winning physical therapy practice now opens its newest office at 135 Cherry Street, bringing top clinical talent and advanced healing technology to Milford.

Amity Physical Therapy excels in personal and compassionate treatment of patients of all ages, pediatrics to geriatrics.

For an evaluation of any painful ailment or post-surgery rehab, call Peter Geloso DPT/ Supervisor at 203.693.2350 or visit [amitypt.com](http://amitypt.com). No referrals required, most medical plans accepted, and ongoing CDC Covid-19 guidelines are strictly adhered to.



- Woodbridge
- Hamden
- Branford
- Milford



135 Cherry Street, Milford

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***— Joe, Resident***



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# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



## The Garden Club of Orange Explores Historic House and Garden

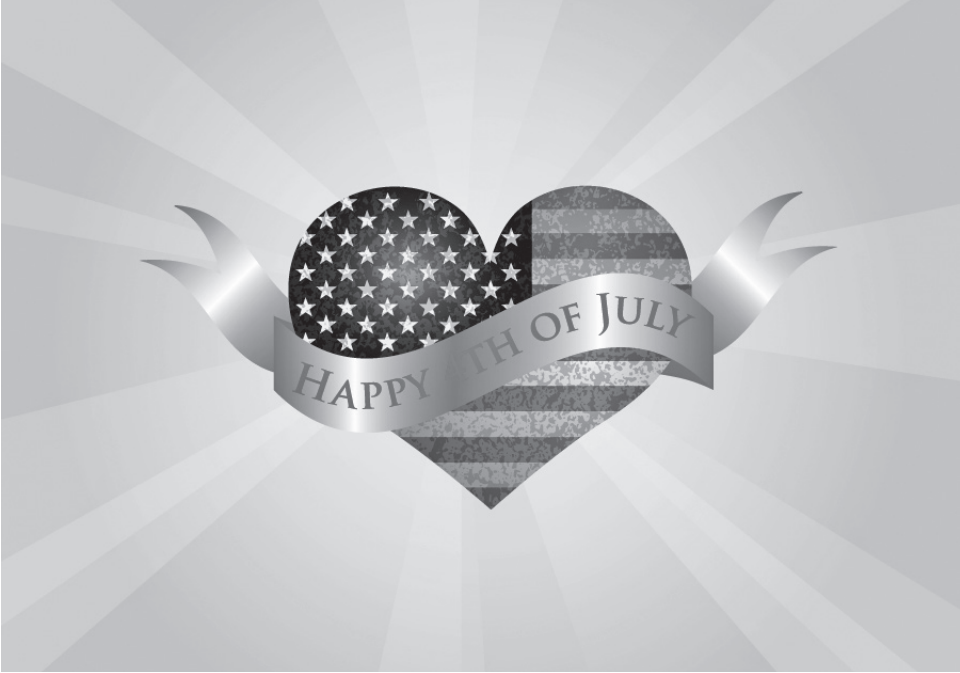
Members of the Orange Garden Club visited the Bellamy-Ferriday House and Garden in Bethlehem, Connecticut and enjoyed the house tour and especially the gardens, filled with lilacs, peonies, and many other blooms.



## Pack 922 Finishes Scouting Year

Pack 922 has officially finished the scouting year; however, we will continue to bring the scouts together through summer events. In May we had our Blue and Gold advancement ceremony where older cub scouts moved onto Boy Scouts and our youngsters achieved their ranks and will be advancing to new achievement opportunities in the Fall. We also held our Spring campout for the pack at a sponsor's home. Next year we hope to return to Camp Cedarcrest so we can camp with our brother packs from the area. At our last pack meeting of the year, we played Ultimate frisbee in teams and had an ice cream social. Throughout the summer we will be

participating in the DEEP Sky's the Limit Hike Challenge. So far, we have completed 2 of the 20 trails and will be gathering this summer and throughout the Fall to earn the medallion. The pack has also decided to participate in the annual Pumpkin Chunkin in Howard, Pennsylvania. This summer we will build a new trebuchet with the scouts and will travel to the festival in October. We are always excited to meet new scouts so if you are interested in joining, please email Cubmaster Brian Cleveland [bcleveland@hotmail.com](mailto:bcleveland@hotmail.com). We look forward to meeting new friends. Look for us around this summer as we wear our orange and head out to the trails.





# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

*The Garden Club Of Orange Annual Luncheon  
Meeting And Celebration Of The Club's 90<sup>th</sup> Year!*



*New President Patti Logioco honors Linda Bradford, outgoing president with a Life Member Award to the Federated Garden Club of Connecticut.*



*Gail Nixon recieves the first Annual Distinguish Service for the year 2020 and Nancy Beque recieves it for the year 2021. The awards honor their many years of service to the club.*



*The horticulture chairs Sally Denny and Elly Torello, in anticipation of the Town Of Orange's 200th Anniversary, gave everyone orange marigolds as a summer project.*

## DID YOU KNOW? Independence Day

You may be surprised to learn that Independence Day and estate planning have a lot in common.

### Independence

- July 4 is the day we declared our independence from what felt like the tyrannical and arbitrary rules created by Great Britain.
- An estate plan also is a declaration of independence. It allows you to direct where your wealth goes after you die. It allows you to name the people in charge of making sure that happens. If you don't have an estate plan, those decisions are made by Connecticut statutes and a Probate Court Judge.

### Evolution over time

- Our nation has evolved over time. The Mayflower Compact preceded the Declaration of Independence. The Constitution and Bill of Rights came after the Declaration of Independence.
- An estate plan also evolves over time. What works for a single person changes with marriage. What works for a couple without children changes when children are born or adopted. What works for a young person/couple changes as they age.

### Rules to follow

- Our Constitution has rules that we all agree to follow.
- An estate plan also has rules that must be followed. The provisions in your Will or Revocable Trust are legally enforceable. They must be followed.

### Checks and balances

- Our Constitution has checks and balances. As an example, the judicial branch has the authority to tell the executive or legislative branch that it has exceeded its Constitutional authority.
- An estate plan also has checks and balances. If the person in charge of your Will does not follow your instructions, a beneficiary can ask a Probate Court to tell the person in charge that your Will must be followed as written.

If you are interested in learning more about estate planning, please visit our website and read our blog for recent posts. For advice specific to you or your family, please contact the office. We would be glad to meet with you for a no hassle, no charge initial consultation, no matter how long it lasts.



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# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## Congregation Beth El – Keser Israel Events



### Welcome New Rabbi

Rabbi Eric Woodward, who most recently served as the senior rabbi of Tiferet Bet Israel in Blue Bell, Pa., and previously as assistant rabbi at Congregation Tifereth Israel in Columbus, Ohio, is BEKI's new rabbi.

Named by the Forward in 2015 as one of America's Most Inspiring Rabbis, he was raised in an interfaith, mixed-race (Mexican and Ashkenazic Jewish) home in Los Angeles. He attended Williams College, where he wrote his undergraduate thesis on the theology of Rav Joseph Soloveitchik. Ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2013, Rabbi Woodward also studied at Mechon Schechter in Jerusalem and as a fellow at Yeshivat Hadar in New York.

Rabbi Woodward, who is relocating to Westville with his wife, Katharine Baker, the publications director at the Rabbinical Assembly, and their daughters, Ayelet and Tamar, can be reached at [rabbi@beki.org](mailto:rabbi@beki.org).

### All Services In-person

Starting Thursday, July 1, all services at BEKI will return to in-person, though Zoom still will be available on weekdays. The Sunday morning minyan remains outside in the courtyard, weather permitting, as will one Friday night service each month.

### Children's Services

Each Saturday, Children's Havura still meets outdoors in the courtyard, when the weather permits. K-2 Kehila and Junior Congregation meet indoors. All three start at 10:45 am and end outdoors with the congregation's kiddush lunch. To receive her weekly newsletter, email Youth and Family Programming Director Annie Norman-Schiff at [anormanschiff@beki.org](mailto:anormanschiff@beki.org).

### Tisha BeAv July 17-18

BEKI will hold Tisha BeAv Maariv with kinnot (dirges) & Eikhah (The

Book of Lamentations) at 9:20 pm on Saturday night, July 17. On Sunday, the 9:00 am service will include Torah reading and the book of Eikhah.

### Campfire Songs

The community is welcome to a kumsitz on Wednesday, July 21 at 7:00 pm in the BEKI courtyard (rain date Thursday, July 22). Kumsitz means to "come" and "sit" around a campfire. All ages are welcome. Songs will be niggunim—which have no words—as well as traditional American songs and Jewish songs. Song sheets, also posted at [beki.org](http://beki.org), will be provided.



### Elm City Winds

Elm City Winds will perform in the BEKI courtyard on Wednesday, July 28 at 7:00 pm. Composed of Jennifer Sidney Silva, flute; Caesar Storlazzi, oboe; Laura Caruthers, clarinet; Adrienne Gallagher, bassoon; and Emily Fine, French horn, this woodwind quintet performs both classical and popular music. Reservations at [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org). The rain date will be Thursday, August 5 at 7:00 pm.

### Garden of Healing

BEKI is planning a Saturday afternoon tour of the new Botanical Garden of Healing. Dedicated to victims of gun violence in New Haven, the garden was designed by Svigals + Partners and includes thousands of flowers planted by volunteers with Urban Resources Initiative. Conceived by Marlene Pratt and other mothers who lost children to gun violence, the garden includes a brick walkway inscribed with the names of over 600 victims. Email [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org) for details about the tour.

### High Holy Days

Arriving so early this year that Erev Rosh HaShanah falls on Labor Day, the High Holy Days at BEKI should be back to normal in the main sanctuary. Consult [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org) for ticket information. During August, BEKI will offer a series of programs to prepare the heart, mind, and soul for the high holy days.

Located at 85 Harrison Street (corner of Whalley Avenue - Route 63 - in Westville)

## The First Church of Christ Woodbridge

The First Church of Christ is eager to welcome you to our on-site Worship Services taking place every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. inside the Meetinghouse.

**The Zoom Option** remains available for the time being. To receive an invite, please email the office or log on to our website and add your name to our church email list. All people in the community are welcome in person or via Zoom.

**Live Stream Services** can be viewed on our website every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. A video recording of the live stream is featured for the entire week following the service. To view previous Sunday Services, visit us on YouTube using the link provided on all pages of our website. (Links, contact info, and a schedule of upcoming Services are listed at the bottom of this article.)

\*If you would like assistance in gaining access to Sunday Service, please call us by Friday morning, at 203-389-2119, or email us at [office@uccw.org](mailto:office@uccw.org).

**The Church Office** is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Please adhere to CDC safety regulations upon visiting.

**Weekly Bible Study** sessions are being held in-person at the Parish House. Join us for meetings each



The First Church of Christ

Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

**Boy Scout Troop #907** continues to meet weekly at 7:00 p.m. New members are invited to attend. For information, visit its website at [www.troop907.org](http://www.troop907.org).

**Events Update:** We are excited to announce a new event which will be held this fall - A Pumpkin and Apple Festival. We will be having all sorts of events: yard games, face painting, pumpkin carving, music, apple and pumpkins desserts. Stay tuned for more information!

**More Information** regarding First Church activities and/or events is always available on our website, [www.uccw.org](http://www.uccw.org), including a newly updated calendar of weekly meetings and special events. An archive of our monthly newsletter, "The Parishioner", is also available for viewing on our website.

## Orange Town News

### ATTENTION ORANGE RESIDENTS!

Have an Upcoming Birth Announcement, Anniversary, Engagement or Wedding?  
Send it to us with a photo and we will publish it FREE.

Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477  
Email: [edit@oragetownnews.com](mailto:edit@oragetownnews.com)

**Sunday Mass: 5:00pm**  
**Contact us: 203-795-5076**  
[ourladyofsorrowscat@yahoo.com](mailto:ourladyofsorrowscat@yahoo.com)  
Facebook: @OurLadyOfSorrowsTraditional  
378 Spring St., Orange (off of Racebrook Rd)



# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## Congregation Or Shalom Happenings

**Join Us At Weekly Services Morning Minyan**

- Sunday 9:00 AM – In person and Zoomed
- Monday 8:30 AM – Zoomed
- Thursday 8:30 AM – Zoomed
- Shabbat Services
- Friday 7:30 PM – In person and Zoomed
- Saturday 9:30 AM – In person and Zoomed

**“...The sand and the sea, the rush of the waters...”**  
*Friday evening service, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7 PM, Gulf Beach, Milford*

Drive to the corner of Cherry St & Gulf St in Milford...turn left onto Gulf St...proceed till you arrive at the beach! (Set your GPS for #460, Gulf St) Look for us immediately on the right, alongside the inlet. Men’s Club members will welcome you and point to our makeshift “sanctuary” on the sand! Please dress casually, the Rabbi will be shoeless! IMPORTANT: PLEASE BRING A BLANKET OR BEACH CHAIR, AND PLEASE BRING HATS! (yarmulkas fly away!) Lastly, snacks will be available but feel free to come early with a picnic supper.

**Virtual Learning This Month**  
**JOIN OUR BOOK GROUP!**  
**“Strangers In Their Own Land”**  
by Arlie Russell Hochschild  
*Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.*  
Led by Rachel Ranis. Email cos-

halom@sbcglobal.net or call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 to register.

**A finalist for the National Book Award, and New York Times Best Seller!**  
“In Strangers in Their Own Land,” the renowned sociologist Arlie Hochschild embarks on a thought-provoking journey from her liberal hometown of Berkeley, California, deep into Louisiana bayou country - a stronghold of the conservative right. As she gets to know people who strongly oppose many of the ideas she famously champions, Hochschild nevertheless finds common ground and quickly warms to the people she meets, among them a Tea Party activist whose town has been swallowed by a sinkhole caused by a drilling accident - people whose concerns are actually ones that all Americans share: the desire for community, the embrace of family, and hopes for their children.

“Strangers in Their Own Land” goes beyond the commonplace liberal idea that these are people who have been duped into voting against their own interests. Instead Hochschild finds lives ripped apart by stagnant wages, a loss of home, an elusive American dream - and political choices and views that make sense in the context of their lives. Hochschild draws on her expert knowledge of the sociology of emotion to help us understand what it feels like to live in “red” America. Along the way she finds answers to one of the crucial

questions of contemporary American politics: Why do the people who would seem to benefit most from “liberal” government intervention abhor the very idea?

**Social Action**  
Our Social Action Committee is continuing to collect non-perishable food items. Some suggestions: dried black beans, rice, Canola or olive oil, garlic, potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, pasta, whole grains, oatmeal, low sodium soup or broth. You can drop off these items at the synagogue. Please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 for further information.

**Blood Drive**  
*Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 9 am - 2 pm*

The Red Cross encourages eligible donors to become hometown heroes and answer the call of patients in need by donating blood.  
Please help ensure blood is available for patients in need this summer. To donate, download the Blood Donor App (3cu.be/blood), visit redcross-blood.org, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.  
Even if you have recently received a COVID-19 vaccination, you can still give blood.

**Activities**  
**ZUMBA GOLD AT OR SHALOM – Zoomed**  
ZUMBA Gold is an easy-to-follow

dance movement program that incorporates music from every decade to create an upbeat and fun exercise class. Burn lots of calories, meet new friends, and have a blast. It’s perfect for active older adults who are looking to dance and have a good workout while increasing balance, range of motion, and coordination.  
Tuesday nights at 7 PM. Contact Robin at zumbarobin@gmail.com or call 203-314-8176 or the synagogue office at 203-799-2341. No experience needed and classes are on a drop-in basis.

Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:15 AM with Danielle Pettit. 10 class punch card: \$70, drop-in class: \$8. Email daniellepettit@yahoo.com or call 203-509-3683 (cell).

**SAVE THE DATE!!**  
**The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Or Shalom Golf Tournament**  
*Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 am, Orange Hills CC, Orange, CT*

Breakfast and a BBQ lunch are included in the entry fee (Kosher dietary laws observed).  
Please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 for further information and registration form.  
**YACHAD Religious School enrollment is now OPEN** for the coming school year. Please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 for details.

Orange Town News

ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

Send us your organizations events listings and items of interest. We will publish them for free.

Orange Town News – P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477  
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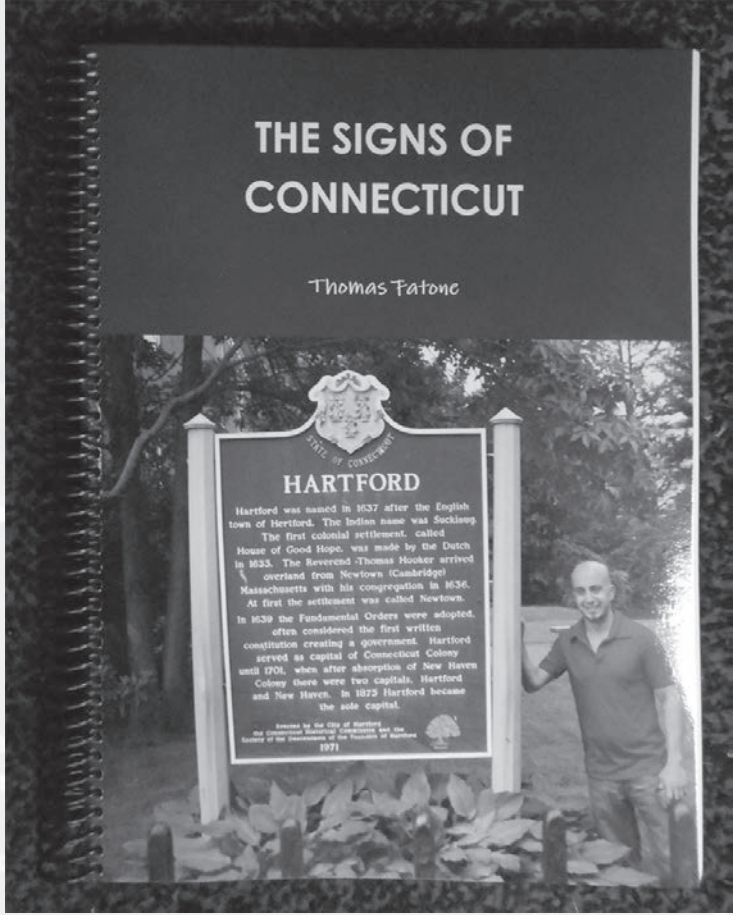
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# CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

### Hours

The Library has returned to its normal operating hours, which are as follows:

- › Monday, Thursday: 10 a.m. -8 p.m.
- › Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m. -5 p.m.

### Holiday Closings

The Library will be closed on Saturday, July 3 and Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.

### Program Fees

Programs at the Case Memorial Library are free, except as noted for materials charges, and open to the public.

### Registration

Registration is required for all library programs. Register for events at [casememorallibrary.org/events](http://casememorallibrary.org/events).

### Zoom Programs

For online security reasons you must register with the Library to attend virtual programs. Registered attendees will receive a Zoom link via email before the event. The registrant's name as displayed on Zoom must match the name used for registration in order to guarantee admission.

### Take & Make Programs

Please check the full event listing for age restrictions, deadlines to sign up, and instructions on pickup of supplies.

### Summer Reading

The Case Memorial Library has planned a summer full of fun for all ages. From June 12 to August 14, children, teens, and adults of all ages are all invited to participate in our summer reading programs and win prizes, attend exciting free events, and pick up special kits throughout the summer. For a complete overview of our summer reading programs and to participate online visit [casememorallibrary.org/summerreading](http://casememorallibrary.org/summerreading). All summer reading prizes are generously funded by the Friends of the Library.

### Book Sales

Sunday, July 18, 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

Sunday, August 15, 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

The Friends of the Library will be holding two book sales this summer in the basement of the Library. Admission will be limited to 30 shoppers at a time. Shoppers are encouraged to wear masks, social distance, and bring your own bags. Cash and checks only. The Library will not be open for service the day of the book sale.

### Story Times

**Zoom 3-5-Year-Old Story Time**

Bi-weekly on Mondays at 10:30am

176 Tyler City Road, Orange, CT 06477  
203-891-2170 • [www.casememorallibrary.org](http://www.casememorallibrary.org)

from July 12 through August 23  
For children ages 3-5.  
Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required.

**Zoom 2-3-Year-Old Story Time**

Bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30am from July 14 to August 25  
For children ages 2-3.

Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required.

**Events for Children**  
**Blobfish Slime**

Registration: June 10-July 1  
Pickup dates: July 6-12

For children ages 6 and up.  
Make a puffy, slimy blobfish with our slime recipe!

**Summer Reading Kickoff:**  
**Circus Minimus**

Online Viewing Dates: June 12-26  
For children of all ages and their families.  
From a single suitcase an entire circus emerges: tent, band, lights, and an unforgettable cast of characters. Enjoy an enthralling, whimsical celebration of the imagination from the comfort of home!

**Book Hedgehogs**

Registration: June 24 -July 15  
Pickup dates: July 19-24  
For rising 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Give new life to an old book by turning it into an adorable hedgehog!

**Rainbow Fish Luminaries**

Registration: June 17-July 8  
Pickup dates: July 12-17  
For rising 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> graders.  
Make a glowing luminary to light up your room at night!

**Butterfly Puddlers**

Registration: July 8-29  
Pickup dates: August 2-7  
For children ages 5 and up.  
Bring some beauty to your home by making a butterfly puddler and feeder!

**Animal Magnets**

Registration: July 15-August 5  
Pickup dates: August 9-14  
For rising 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> graders.  
Turn an image of your favorite animal into a magnet! Just choose your favorite photo or printed picture and we'll provide the rest.

**Virtual Summer Reading Finale**

Saturday, August

7-Saturday, August 21  
For children of all ages and their families.  
Using mime, comedy, and interactive stories, Robert Rivest will bring original and classic Tall Tales (with Tails) to life before your eyes. Registration is not required. Visit our website - [casememorallibrary.org](http://casememorallibrary.org) - between August 7 and August 21 for the link to view this wonderful program.

**Events for Teens & Adults**  
**Teen Take & Make Food Kit: Doughnut Cookies**

Registration: May 28-June 21  
Pickup dates: June 23-24  
For rising 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Learn to pipe royal icing and decorate your own doughnut-shaped sugar cookies with this premade cookie decorating kit.

**Virtual Author Talk: Ghosts of Gold Mountain**

Monday, June 28, 7 p.m.  
Join us for a Zoom talk with author Gordon H. Chang! Ghosts of Gold Mountain is a groundbreaking history of the Chinese workers who built the Transcontinental Railroad, helping forge modern America only to disappear into the shadows of history. Register via EventKeeper by June 28 at 5 p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

**Take & Make Craft Kit: Zentangles**

Registration: June 10-July 1  
Pickup dates: July 6-10  
For adults and rising 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Learn the meditative art of zentangles with this take-home kit.

**Outdoor Concert of Irish Music**

Sunday, July 11, 2 p.m.  
Join Dublin born folklorist, folk-singer and instrumentalist Tom O'Carroll for a lively concert of Irish music. Tom O'Carroll brings a wealth of stories, humor, wit and history to his performances. He has played at concerts, festivals, colleges, libraries and pubs all over the U.S. and Canada, as well as his native Ireland. This program will be held outside on the Library's back lawn. Please bring your own chair, wear a mask, and maintain social distancing. In the event of rain, this event will be postponed to Sunday, July 25. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

**Teen Take & Make Cooking Kit: Bubble Tea**

Registration: June 17-July 8

Pickup dates: July 12-17  
For rising 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Cook your own boba and make your own bubble tea with this tasty, take-home cooking kit.

**Teen Take & Make Kit: Build Your Own Spin Art Machine**

Registration: June 24-July 15  
Pickup dates: July 19-24  
For rising 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Learn to create a simple circuit and build your own usable spin art machine.

**The Bookcase: Evening Zoom Discussion Group**

Thursday, July 22, 7 p.m.  
Join Bookcase leader Toby Zabinski for a Zoom discussion of Raphael, Painter in Rome by Stephanie Storey. Register via EventKeeper by July 22 at 5 p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

**Virtual Author Talk: Found in Transition**

Monday, July 26, 7 p.m.  
In this autobiographical narrative, an Iranian-American pediatrician and mother of three is blindsided when one of her children comes out as transgender. As the author grapples with her child's transition from male to female, she is forced to re-examine her ideas of parenting, gender, and personal identity. Join us for a Zoom talk with author Paria Hassouri! Register via EventKeeper by July 26 at 5 p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

**Teen Take & Make Cooking Kit: Fortune Cookies**

Registration: July 8-29  
Pickup dates: August 2-7  
For rising 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Create your own fortune cookies with this take-home baking kit.

**Outdoor Concert: Survivors Swing Band**

Sunday, August 8, 2 p.m.  
Remember when you listened, sang, and danced to the great old tunes of the 1920s through 1940s? The Survivors Swing Band will get your toes a-tappin' and fingers snappin' as you revive those memories. This program will be held outside on the Library's back lawn. Please bring your own chair, wear a mask, and maintain social distancing. In the event of rain, this event will be postponed to Sunday, August 22. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

**Take & Make Craft Kit: Peppermint Lip Balm**

Registration: July 22-12  
Pickup dates: August 16-21  
For adults and rising 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders.  
Create your own peppermint lip balm with this take-home craft kit.





# Friends’ Book Sale

BOOK SALES ARE BACK!

The Friends of the Case Memorial Library will be hosting its first summer book sale on Sunday, July 18, from 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Library basement. Please bring your mask.

The Friends are grateful for the community support in donating books. Since the Library reopened, the Friends began accepting donations and the response has been staggering. A group of dedicated members has devoted hours, sorting through books, suitable for resale. While well-intended, many donated books have condition issues such as outdated material, mildew, ripped/marred/missing pages, etc. Such books have no sale value.

To better streamline the sorting procedure, the Friends has adopted a simple criteria for donations: PLEASE DONATE ONLY BOOKS WHICH YOU WOULD PURCHASE FOR YOURSELF OR FOR A GIFT. The Friends thank you for presorting your book donations before giving them to the Library. This

will allow the Friends’ sales to offer a variety of timely and attractive choices for book lovers to purchase.

Also, please note that due to poor sales, the Friends is no longer accepting cassette tapes, CDs, vinyl records, VHS tapes, magazines, encyclopedias, and textbooks older than 5 years. Book sales are the main source of fundraising for the Friends of the Library. Proceeds from the sales are used for entertainment and enrichment programs and for special Library purchases. The Library is one of the town’s most cherished educational and cultural assets and has something for everyone.

If you are interested in supporting the Library, please ask for information about becoming a Friend at the circulation desk. Volunteers help to sort book donations, assist at Book Sales and Friends’ programs and may also choose to serve on the Board. Best of all, you will make new friends by being a Friend.



The Friends of the Case Memorial Library awarded the 2021 Lucy Scillia Memorial Scholarship to Michael Haverstock at the Annual Meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Pictured are Michael Haverstock and his parents, along with Janet Sender, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee.

## DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

# Achieving Tax Freedom in Retirement

BY ROBERTA L. NESTOR

For Connecticut residents, “Tax Freedom Day” has come and gone. That is the date each year that represents when we have worked enough to fully pay all our federal and state income tax liabilities for the calendar year. In our state, working individuals achieved tax-freedom on April 25<sup>th</sup> of 2021. Tax Freedom Day is specific to those who are still in the workforce. But how and when can retirees achieve tax freedom?

That would depend on how you saved before retirement. Were your retirement contributions pre-tax or after-tax? Roths were introduced as a part of the Taxpayer & Relief Act of 1997 and was named after Senator William Roth. Back then there was a cap of \$3,000 for Roth contributions, today that cap is \$6,000 – if your income is within IRS limits. Roth 401k plans were allowed in January of 2006; however, most employers were slow to make them available to employees. Today, approximately 70% of employers have the Roth option available.

Picture a retirement without having to pay taxes on your income! Every dollar of your contributions and their earnings would be completely free of state and federal taxes. The big question is, is it better to pay taxes now, while you are working, or would it be better to pay taxes during retirement? Today, most of us have a choice of paying now or paying later.

One of the most common myths about retirement is that you will be in a lower tax bracket. Historically, tax brackets are based on whatever your income is, regardless of whether you are retired. Separate tax tables for retirees do not exist. So, will you be in a lower tax bracket at retirement? You could, it is an unknown, and dependent on what our tax brackets will be in the future. If you have saved well, and if you want to maintain the same lifestyle, chances are you will still be in the same tax bracket.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, our present tax rates are historically low. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that was effective for tax years starting in 2018 will expire at the end of 2025. Now would be a great time

to pay taxes on contributions to your retirement plan. Maintaining a high level of tax-deferral is an unknown liability because we do not know what future tax rates will be.

Also consider the many tax consequences for retirees when they are taking income from traditional tax-deferred retirement plans. Hefty withdrawals can impact the taxation of social security, Medicare premiums or even push up your tax bracket. Because of the new “10 Year Rule,” tax-deferred inheritances further impact taxes for your children when they ultimately inherit.

The good news is this is not an all or nothing decision. For example, you can elect to have 50% of your retirement contributions as pre-tax and the other half as a Roth contribution. This can eliminate some of the risk of being in a higher bracket during retirement. You can change the election and allocation anytime. Contributing all or a portion of your 401k to the Roth does not interfere with your employer match. You will receive your match (tax-deferred) regardless of how you designate your own contributions.

We understand investment diversification, now it is time to start understanding tax diversification. Tax diversification can enhance your retirement income and help you to achieve your own “Tax Freedom.”

Roberta L. Nestor is a financial advisor practicing at 759 Boston Post Road in Milford, CT offering retirement, long term care, investment, and tax planning services. She offers securities and advisory services as a Registered Representative and Investment Adviser Representative of Commonwealth Financial Network – a member FINRA/SIPC and a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products offered through Nestor Financial Network are separate and unrelated to Commonwealth. Commonwealth Financial Network or Nestor Financial Network does not provide legal or tax advice. You should consult a legal or tax professional regarding your individual situation. Roberta can be reached at Nestor Financial Network, 203-876-8066 or roberta@nestorfinancial.com.



“Park” From Page 1

architect; Blair Pierce, a mom and swim instructor; Marisa Asarisi, an educator, who lives in walking distance of the park; Charles Flynn, a teacher who has a Realtor’s license; and Lynn Plaskowitz, who works in the town’s Parks and Recreation Department, and was involved in the construction of the Mary L Tracy playground.

The playground would be located to the right of the existing entrance to Wolfe Park from Hollow Road, and extend south from there.

The concepts Ewen presented in a PowerPoint presentation showed large, colorful pieces of playground equipment connected by wheelchair-accessible paths, climbing and spinning structures, a big slide, swings and a sensory play area. The playground design showed an outer walking track, looping around the playground, that parents could use while their kids are playing.

There would be an area for older kids and another for the younger ones. Other ideas include a hard-surface area where kids can learn to ride their bikes. As for the local character, he suggested to utilize the boulders that will be unearthed as the field is being prepared.

Several years ago, the town was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the state’s Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP). Originally the grant was to build a new access point at the corner of Peck and Pine Tree Drive, but the Army Corps of Engineers determined that area of the property had extensive wetlands, and the idea to build on it was rejected. Instead, the town asked for the grant to be repurposed for a playground, which is now being considered.

The committee is hoping to come up with at least another \$60,000 through different fund-raising venues, approaching both corporations and the public at large to be able to include all the features it would like to see. The boulders could be used in that regard as “plaques.” They are also talking about selling bricks for \$50 each that would be part of a walkway.

But whether they come up with that money or not, this project will not include any improvements to the park as a whole, such as restrooms, lighting, driveway work and no splash pad, Ewen said. In fact, the splash pad that was shown on an earlier Masterplan is not being considered any more, due to infrastructure challenges.

“The grant will get us a very nice playground,” said Playground Committee member Lynn Plaskowitz in a phone conversation after the meeting. While the design may not be set in stone, the committee was hoping to order playground equipment by July 1. Like all other building materials, the industry suffered manufacturing delays during COVID, leading to delivery delays. The plan is to start prepping the ground this fall, and possibly get the installation done next spring.



Although many of the speakers on June 14 congratulated the committee for its work, they also came to express concerns about traffic congestion at the park, security issues, the lack of fencing and the lack of a master plan.

First Selectman Jim Zeoli stepped to the podium to respond to these concerns. He said what was laid out in the masterplan was not possible to build, and, while they can use some ideas from it, the town can’t use it as a whole.

“Pickleball courts are in the future, this playground is in the future, the road out to Oakview Drive is in the future,” he said. He indicated that the town is investigating the cost of fencing. He said he has heard complaints from residents of Hollow Road, who may see hundreds of cars backed up in their narrow road when soccer and lacrosse games are on.

“We are working on widening the road and some other improvements that will help the residents of Hollow Road,” he said. The town will install a gate at the entrance to the park, that will be closed at night to keep out ATV drivers that have destroyed surfaces in the park. “Growing pains, that’s what they are,” Zeoli said.

Resident Janet Lyngdal expressed concern about the layout, with the road and parking lot separating the playground from the playing fields. “This type of setup is asking for trouble, with a 2-year-old running off to see their friends,” she said. She pointed out that while the concept drawing shows mature trees, a natural barrier, the land has been cleared, “even a rock wall was removed.” “There is nothing left today to prevent that ball from rolling into the road between soccer and lacrosse – we have an issue today that needs to be resolved,” she said.

“You’re putting the cart in front of the horse,” said another participant, adding the infrastructure should be in place before spending money on a playground.

Connor Dean, a political challenger

to the first selectman in this election year, agreed. “People should know these things,” he said. “No ‘down-the-road-we’ll add-bathrooms,’” he said, adding “safety should be our number one concern.”

The town purchased Fred Wolfe Park in 1998 from Amity, which years back thought it could put an Orange high school campus in that location. Some private parcels were added to that, so that currently the park consists of some 70+ acres, bordered by Meetinghouse Lane in the North, Ridge Road and its offshoots in the West, Pine Tree Drive in the South and Orange Center Road and its offshoots in the east. But what was originally all wooded, even beyond the boundaries of the park, is now built up, with residences all around it.

Although some 15 acres close to Meetinghouse Lane are still being farmed, the rest of the property is dedicated to recreation. There are six soccer fields and at least four lacrosse fields, with soccer and lacrosse separated by a strip of woods. As cars enter from a driveway off the cul-de-sac of Hollow Road, there is a parking lot for the soccer program. But to get to the lacrosse parking lot, cars have to cut through the open area, west to east, which borders the soccer fields.

The town’s highway department has recently reconfigured and paved the driveway to the lacrosse fields. The town also had an additional field cleared on the other side of the road, opposite the soccer fields. It will serve as an additional practice field.

Orange Soccer Association president Thomas Pisano addressed the Board of Selectmen at its meeting June 9 to point out the danger of having the road so close to the soccer fields. A small fence was put up, “not more than deer netting,” he said.

“We have improved the park and made it unsafe for the children,” he told the board. He had sent them a video he took of an SUV approaching from the lacrosse parking lot, while

one of the soccer players was climbing through the temporary fence to retrieve a ball that had escaped and rolled into the road. Even though the driver in this particular case was slowing down, it could have ended badly. He said parents have approached him about the situation. The temporary fence is not enough to keep the players safe, Pisano said. “We need something permanent, ten feet high, 20 feet high.

At the playground forum, when he was asked again about the need for fencing, Zeoli said the town has been talking to fence installers. “There will be fencing where there needs to be fencing,” he added.

As for the Hollow Road residents, who were attending the forum out of concern about even more traffic once another facility opens at the park, Zeoli said there will be a second driveway connecting to Oakview Drive. Hopefully that will take some of the pressures off Hollow Road, Zeoli said.

The Orange Soccer Association meanwhile asked to be included in the July selectmen’s agenda. “This board has done a lot for the children of Orange,” said Tom Pisano to the selectmen. “And we are seeing tons more children. I’d like to make sure the kids are safe there, that the plan is thought-out,” he said.







# Campsite Safety Tips

The appeal of camping is undeniable. According to The Business Research Company, a market research and intelligence company, the global camping and caravanning market is expected to grow from just under \$40 billion in 2020 to more than \$45 billion in 2021. Estimates suggest the market will grow even more in the coming years, reaching \$56.6 billion by 2025.

Camping has long been a popular pastime for outdoor enthusiasts, but it may have developed an entirely new group of devotees in 2020. Traditional vacations may not have been possible in 2020, when governments across the globe urged citizens to avoid conventional travel as the world found itself in the throes of a global pandemic. In an effort to overcome cabin fever, many people viewed camping as a safe way to get out of the house while still limiting contact with people from other households. That no doubt inspired new generations of camping fans, many of whom will continue to pitch their tents and sit around campfires long after the pandemic has ended.

The National Park Service recognizes the popularity of camping and urges people to stay safe. Veteran campers and novices alike can benefit from reviewing these safety tips, courtesy of the NPS.

Plan ahead. Camping trips may not require hours of scouring travel websites in an effort to find the best deals on flights and hotels. But camping trips still require ample planning. When planning a trip, take into account who's coming along. Assess their camping skills and physical fitness to determine the most appropriate place to camp. Campers with limited mobility may be best suited for accessible campsites. The NPS urges campers to consider if everyone in the group

will be able to make a long hike from the parking lot to the campsite. If not, choose a site that you can pull right up to or is just a short, easy walk from the parking lot.

Research the campsite and surrounding area. Know as much as possible about the campsite prior to embarking on your trip. Learn about everything from the local wildlife you may encounter while camping to the condition of surrounding areas, including the altitude, the difficulty of nearby hiking trails and where to go in case of emergency.

Develop an emergency plan. The NPS urges campers to develop an emergency plan, noting that it's always wise to expect the unexpected when camping. Bring a first aid kit along when leaving the campsite to engage in activities like hiking or fishing. Go over safety protocols before going on a hike, including the need to stay together and remain on the trail at all times. More information about what to do should anyone be injured during your trip is available at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

Bring the right gear. The NPS notes that each camping trip will have its own equipment needs, which will be dictated by the setting, the time of year of the trip, the difficulty of the terrain, and the duration of the trip. Navigational supplies, sun and insect protection, insulation (i.e., extra clothing and blankets), shelter, flashlights and headlamps, first aid kits, extra food and water, firestarters, repair kits and tools, and a communication device like a smartphone or satellite phone are the essential necessities that should be brought along on all camping trips.

Camping is a great way to get away. Campers of all skill and experience levels can make the most of their trips by emphasizing safety at all times.



# Can I Travel After Getting The Covid-19 Vaccine?

It is that time of year when many people are looking forward to their summer vacation plans. However, people may be wondering if this is finally a time when they can travel with minimal health risks, or if they may have to postpone adventures once again, just as they did last summer, when the global pandemic was still raging?

Though social distancing, sanitation and crowd limits press on this year, a few things have changed since last summer. After a year of living in a pandemic, doctors and the public in general have learned what is working and what is not in regard to managing surges and avoiding a rush on hospitals and health centers. In addition, at press time, various effective COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to millions of people, and another is potentially on the horizon. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these vaccines are effective at protecting people from getting seriously sick. People who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things they ceased doing because of the pandemic. Many may wonder if that means traveling.

Experts say that those who have been fully vaccinated (receiving both shots for the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines or one for the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine) it is likely safe to travel again. But caution is still needed. The vaccines do not immediately provide full protection. The Pfizer or Moderna vaccines provide full vaccination two weeks after the second dose, while the J&J vaccine provides protection two weeks after the single dose is administered.

The CDC offers that those who have been fully vaccinated can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing masks, and gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

However, some things have not changed even for people who have been vaccinated. Gathering with unvaccinated people (or if you cannot confirm they've been vaccinated, such as on an airplane or in other public settings) still requires wearing a mask, staying at least six feet apart from others, avoiding crowds, and avoiding poorly ventilated spaces.

"Getting vaccinated does not say you have a free pass to travel, nor does it say you have a free pass to put aside all the public health measures," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Experts, like Dr. Chris Beyrer, a professor of epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health notes, "We also do not know the answer to the question, 'Are people who have been immunized still infectious to others?'"

There also is concern about how well vaccines will protect against all the COVID variants.

Until more is known about long-term vaccine efficacy and until more people receive their full doses, it may be wise to avoid normal travel patterns this summer, and standard precautions should still be implemented for those who choose to get away.



# DEATH NOTICES

### Julia Mastrangelo

Julia DiNello Mastrangelo, 91, of Orange, beloved wife of the late Nicholas J. Mastrangelo Sr., entered into eternal peace on May 17, 2021, at her home surrounded by her family. Six hours later a double rainbow appeared at her home. Julia was the daughter of the late Pasquale and Margaret Palmieri DiNello. She worked for SNET for twenty years as a balancing representative, retiring in 1989. She was a lifetime member of the Pioneers, an active Holy Infant Guild member and an avid bowler for many years. More recently, Julia attended the Clelian Center which she loved.



She is survived by her devoted children who cared for their adored mom over the past nine years; Elissa Mastrangelo-Marcucci and her husband Frank, Gina Simko and her husband David, Gerald Mastrangelo and Jennifer Verraneault and Nicholas Mastrangelo and his wife Patricia. Julia leaves her cherished grandchildren; Taylor and Morgan Simko, Rachael and Nicholas Mastrangelo, Carly, Anthony, Chris Mastrangelo, step-grandchildren Kirsten and Alec Marcucci and was Nonna to John and Julianna.

The family sincerely thanks Irene Dziekan for being such a devoted and loving caregiver. Sister of Mary Baiocchi, Rosemarie Celentano and Gina Oliano, Angelo DiNello and the late Emma Lembo, Margaret Brunetti, Blanche Porto and Carl, Pasquale, Joseph, and Nicholas DiNello.

In Julia's memory, donations may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association at 200 Executive Blvd, Suite 4B, Southington Ct 06589 or the Clelian Center, 260 Benham St., Hamden Ct 06514.

### Lorraine R. Gambino

Lorraine R. Gambino of Orange, age 97, passed away peacefully at home, hand in hand with her son by her side on June 3, 2021. She was the loving wife of the late Robert J. "Bob" Gambino. Born on August 15, 1923 in Lawrence, MA, the daughter of the late Emile and Emma Dube Raymond. Lorraine is survived



by son Robert J. Gambino Jr., daughter Denise Gambino Halstead, son-in-law Russell Halstead and her cherished granddaughter Alexis Lee Halstead all of Orange, CT. Lorraine was predeceased by her siblings Alphonso & Robert Raymond, Gertrude R. Cardone, Theresa R. Dini, Dorothy R. Tacinelli and Claudette R. Hunt.

After graduating High School, while taking care of her younger siblings, Lorraine attended one year of Business School at night enabling her to become a private secretary while working at the United Illuminating Company. While appearing numerous times within the UI News magazine, including her work as secretary for the Sunshine Fund and singer in the UI Girls' Chorus; Lorraine not only appeared on the cover of the January-February 1955 UI News magazine, but was also highlighted in a four-page article entitled "A Nimble Thimble" written by Marion Lake. "Paris may have its Schiaparelli and New York its Anne Fogarty, but UI has Lorraine Raymond whose wardrobe merits the admiration of all her co-workers. It's no wonder, for Lorraine's clothes are as original and professional in appearance as those by some of the top-flight designers. By day, a secretary in New Haven Operations, who believed neat appearance is part of her job, Lorraine spent many evenings creating her good-looking outfits. Hers was truly a 'nimble thimble'". Not only was Lorraine a gifted seamstress, but also a gifted knitter, known to knit for friends and relatives on birthdays and Christmas.

Lorraine left the UI after many years to start a family in the home she and husband Bob built which she so truly loved. Lorraine remained at home bringing up her children; being involved in all aspects of their lives. From sporting events, to a member of the local PTA, to Mother's Circle, Lorraine made sure she was fully immersed in parenting. Lorraine believed mothering was the most important aspect in the family structure, and took it very seriously. Always the first to get up in the morning and the last to lay her head on her pillow at night; until her children were old enough for her to reenter the work force.

Lorraine retired from the VA Medical Center after 25 years of dedicated service to the United States Government as a Statistical Assistant. Having a strong work ethic, Lorraine instilled this virtue upon her children. Christmas was Lorraine's favorite time of year. Christmas Day family

gatherings was a marvel of wonderment and accomplishment. All the food was prepared and presented by her. While known for her great cooking, this was mirrored in her baking ability, baking no less than 25 different varieties of Christmas Cookies for all to enjoy.

While husband Bob was a member of the Lions Club of Orange for over 50 years having served as its President. Lorraine was involved in all the "behind the scenes" action; including serving at the annual Thanksgiving Dinner opened to everyone; but their target guests are the town's elders, shut-ins, and all those in need of good food and fellowship.

Lorraine was a long-time parishioner of Holy Infant Church and a longtime member of the Catholic Women's Guild.

A modest lady by definition was Lorraine's unconditional love and dedication to what she believed in, which is what makes Lorraine a Living Treasure!

Visitation took place at the West Haven Funeral Home. Burial was celebrated at Holy Infant Church with Interment following in Orange Center Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Lorraine's name to Holy Infant Church, 450 Racebrook Road, Orange, CT 06477. To share a memory, visit [www.westhavenfuneral.com](http://www.westhavenfuneral.com).

**Frederick A. Kendrick, Sr.**

Frederick Allan Kendrick, Sr., 74, of Orange, devoted husband to Eva (Campbell) Kendrick, peacefully entered into eternal rest on May 31, 2021. Born on November 25, 1946, to the late Arnold Frederick Kendrick and the late Alice McGill Kendrick, in Milford, CT.

Besides his parents, Fred was predeceased by his beloved son, Frederick Allan Kendrick, Jr. and his step-mother Elizabeth Burns Kendrick.

Along with his loving wife, Fred is survived by his brothers, Dennis William Kendrick (Natalie Wexler) NYC,


and Peter J. Fisher (Donna) of The Villages, FL; his sister-in-law Martha Gover, San Antonio, TX; his nephews Michael Boudreaux and Shannon Boudreaux, Houston, TX; his niece, Shelley Vaughn, Marble Falls, TX; his great-nephew, Maverick Vaughn, and his best friends Kenneth and Sue Farkas, Lamoine, ME; as well as many other relatives and friends.


Fred proudly served in the US Army as a helicopter mechanic. After completing his military service, he graduated from the University of New Haven, with a B.S. in business. He was a loyal 45-year employee of Sikorsky Aircraft, followed by 3 years at the Hartford Insurance Company and finished his working life as a 3-term Orange Republican Registrar of Voters.


He had many talents and interests including being an award-winning wood carver, a desire to give back to the Town of Orange by serving on the Board of Finance, the Board of Appeals, The Bond Oversight Committee and as the President of the Orange Land Trust. Additionally, he loved to travel and he and Eva and friends made many cruises, his favorite being to Alaska. His deep love for America fueled his curiosity for American war and presidential history. On a lighter note, he was a diehard NY Giants and Mets fan.


Fred carried himself with honesty, dignity and empathy for the people he both loved and those he only just met. He was a true gentleman and will be deeply missed by many.


A Walk-Through Wake took place on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at the Cody-White Funeral Home, 107 Broad St., Milford. A Memorial Service with Military Honors was held at the funeral home. Burial was private. In lieu of flowers, his family requests memorial contributions may be made to Vitas Hospice at <https://vitascommunityconnection.org/> or to Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation at 12151 Avenue of the Chiefs, Crazy Horse, SD 57730-8900, or memorial @CrazyHorse.org. To leave online condolences, please visit [www.codywhitefuneralservice.com](http://www.codywhitefuneralservice.com).













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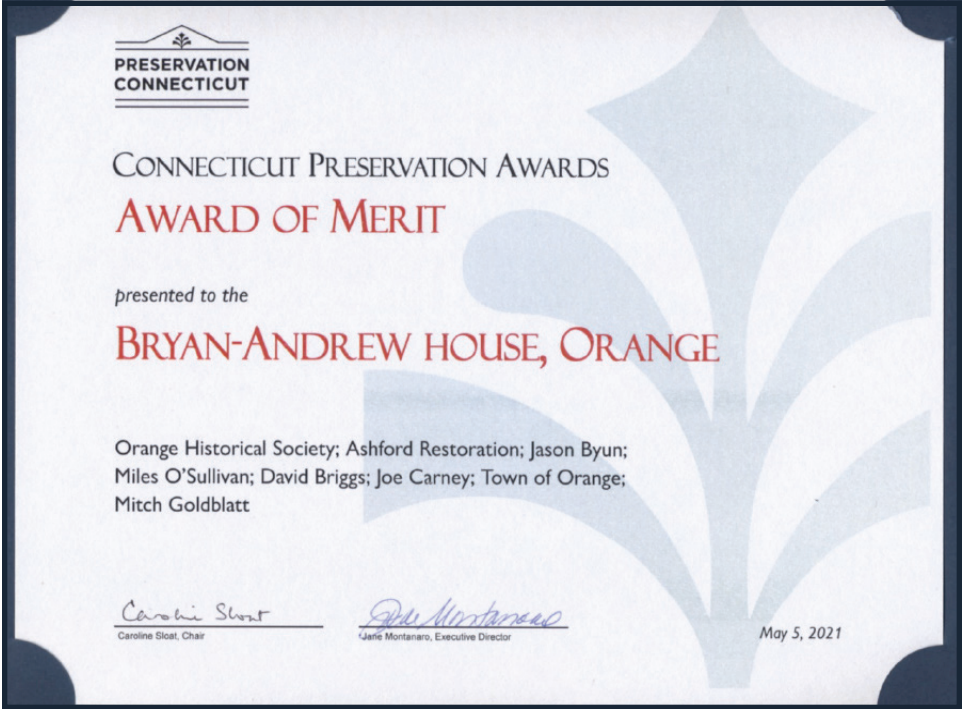
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# Orange Historical Society Receives Award of Merit

The Orange Historical Society (OHS), in 2000, became aware of an old house in Orange, to be vacated by the 19<sup>th</sup> owner, who wished to have the society purchase the home. Without adequate funding, the then First Selectman, Mitch Goldblatt, was approached by OHS President Ginny Reinhard about the possibility of the town purchasing the 1740 home. After research as to its historic value, OHS approached the Board of Selectmen and, with the promise to undertake the restoration, was granted the request.

This April, the OHS was notified of an Award of Merit for that restoration from Preservation Connecticut, a well-known Connecticut organization focused on helping towns and organizations preserve their heritage and guide them to that end. A zoom ceremony took place in May to officially receive this prestigious award and a video will be made at the Bryan-Andrew House in August.

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# Live Music in the Business District

Sat. June 26 *Isabella Mendes*, bossa nova  
Sat. July 24 *Tuxedo Junction*, swing  
Sat. Sept. 25 *Washboard Slim*, jug bang  
Sat. Oct. 23 *Nu Haven Kapelye*, klezmer

1 pm, on Coachman Square's lawn,  
21 Bradley Rd., Woodbridge. Rain date is Sunday.

Presented by United Illuminating in partnership with the Town of Woodbridge Economic Development Commission and Coachman Square.





The Orange Historical Society has an ongoing doll sale at the Academy Building, 605 Orange Center Road, Orange. Come see all the lovely dolls and buy one for that special someone in your life.

The Academy is open Saturdays from 10am – 3pm. For information, visit our website, [www.orangehistory.org](http://www.orangehistory.org), call us at 203-795-3106 or email us at [orangehistorial@yahoo.com](mailto:orangehistorial@yahoo.com). If you are an Amazon shopper, please consider us as your charity of choice by going to <https://smile.amazon.com> and naming the Orange Historical Society as the charity you wish to support.



# HISTORY CORNER



BY GINNY REINHARD

## What's New at the Orange Historical Society...?

Do you have a few minutes? Let me start by saying thank you to our local readers for the support you have given us during our year of despair. Well, maybe not despair but frustration at not being able to hold our annual fundraisers but, we were able to open the Academy in June of 2020 with the health department's sanction and our antiques, books and collectibles were available and purchased. The Great Give Program, Sponsored by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven was a tremendous boost to the start of 2021 with so many of you donating to this annual program. Our heartfelt thanks go to you all.

We were not going to stop working on outside sources for grants and to that end, we were highly successful. The Fred A. DeLuca Foundation continued to support the restoration of the Bryan-Andrew House and this time it was for the exterior which was the responsibility of the town but it became ours and the foundation stepped in to complete the clapboard replacement on three sides with a new coat of paint.



A year earlier, in 2020, Connecticut Humanities kick started the repair and replacement of the southside clapboards of the Bryan-Andrew House through a grant which then led the way to complete the restoration with the DeLuca Foundation.

The Eagle Scouts have been a part of the Bryan-Andrew House through the years and 2019 & 2020 were two years that saw beautiful stone walls built in the back courtyard. Miles O'Sullivan started us off with the northside wall in 2019 with his Eagle Scout project having cleaned up the yard the year before with his life skills effort. Jason Byun built the west wall in 2020. Each of these young men added to their project with other items needed such as gravel around the house and the courtyard itself, planting trees and yard clean-up. Both areas needed to be graded for proper drainage and eventual planting of Myrtle, a ground-cover, that was accomplished by OHS staff members.

One might ask where did they get the stones and rocks for the wall. This was not as easy as you might think.

Many years ago, when the Goddard School was built, river rock was unearthed from the Saybrook River next to the excavation. It was the piles and piles of rocks that the contractor gave OHS that both Miles & Jason used to build the two walls. Recently, a car or truck hit the south wall along the street for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, so the river rock will be needed to repair it. That will need a hefty grant to accomplish that task and perhaps out of the range of a scout project, I'm afraid. Since it is town property, perhaps a municipal grant can work there.

Our most recent outdoor project, coordinated by Zack Geremia, for his Eagle Scout project, was moving the woodshed built by Sean Ayoub in 2018 to the side yard as it had been built before we had ever dreamed of building a wall and it covered the beautiful stonework done by Miles a year later. Zack's team added additional gravel around the house for drainage, added rock borders to the gardens, restacked the small east driveway wall and mulched the gardens, sanded and painted the Bilco Doors, while adding gravel under back staircase for drainage. With funds from this effort, he arranged to have a colonial style bench built by B-A restoration contractor, Edd Oberg to be put in the courtyard.

With Scouting being of great importance and the Eagle Scout the highest award, an indoor project was undertaken by Peter Ivanov in cleaning out the back room of the Academy of assorted items no longer useful, cluttering a perfectly useable space with air conditioners, obsolete doors and the like. The room will be used to augment the Orange Historical Society museum and antique shop but will be turned into a children's learning center for the Town's Bi-Centennial in 2022. Adjacent to the 19<sup>th</sup> century schoolroom visitors will learn about the town as it was in 1822 with hands on items, games and treasure hunts. Peter's group discarded the "junk", painted the walls, floor and ceiling, washed down two sets of shelves and will be building a small enclosure for storage. As a donation, new lighting was provided with this project.

Chance Thompson, one of our board members recently graduated from The Sound School in New Haven but be-



fore that she organized 5 of her fellow students to do a fall clean-up at the Bryan-Andrew House, a nice time for cider and pumpkin donuts.

Not all of our needs can be solved with scouting, and school teams, although as you can see our young people have added greatly to the Orange Historical Society's efforts to promote history. One unsung portion of OHS is the Mary Woodruff Research Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Academy. Here, over the last 9 years, Bob Belletzkic and President Ginny Reinhard have been sorting and filing historical documents, once housed in bags and cardboard boxes as they were donated from hither and yon. So much histo-



ry of the Town of Orange is now in Mylar and filed in appropriate archival boxes and file drawers. But without help, how do we find a copy of a deed from the 1800s? Well? You computerize! Yes, we were given a \$5500,00 Grant from the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven for just that and a unique data base written just for OHS. They heard our plea and sent us all that we asked for.

A few additional items that evolved for this project were sponsored by the Orange Lions Club with \$500, allowing us for on-site training and set up of our equipment not included in the original New Haven Grant. Soon we will be starting entry of our documents and would certainly welcome volunteers who know their way around a MAC.

The computer is also set up with a parallel drive for Windows.

We have often looked to the Orange Foundation for help and this year was about the most unexpected of all with the complete project of lighting both the front of the Bryan-Andrew House and the back parking area, adjacent to the barn. The two other historical buildings, managed by the Orange Historical Society, have identical signage, the Academy having been donated by the Orange Foundation last year, so this grant will fund the third one as well. The original Eagle Scout sign, made by Rich Breitenbach will remain, tucked into the lilac trees along with a small lantern once hung by the last owner of the home, Kate Emerson.

My story would not be complete without reporting a grant, not available to historical societies but to municipalities, known as the STEAP Grant which stands for Small Town Economic Assistance Program. Orange was one of 94 towns eligible through the 2020 reinstatement of funding with an order by Governor Lamont. Board members Marlene Silverstein and Christy Somerville took on the application process, a daunting one to say the least to allow the town to apply for matching funds for extensive repairs to the Stone-Otis House which includes repair of clapboards that have proven faulty, unable to retain paint and windows, damage by dampness with interior ceilings peeling from the damp conditions as well. The bids for this job will come from town hall.

So, there you have it, a history of efforts by the Orange Historical Society to keep afloat in



a most difficult time financially, emotionally and physically but we did it and will continue to work toward maintaining the historical buildings put in our care and make the history of our town available to everyone. Watch for the summer opening of the Stone-Otis House in July! For the Bryan-Andrew House call 203 795-3106 for reservations and The Academy is open every Saturday from 10-3 with antiques and collectibles. Come see our new room.



# Celebrate the Town of Orange's LABOR DAY CONCERT & FIREWORKS DISPLAY 2021



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
(Rain Date: Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>)  
**ORANGE FAIRGROUNDS GAZEBO**  
**525 Orange Center Road, Orange**

**RONSTADT REVUE** is the ultimate tribute to one of the world's greatest singers, Ms. Linda Ronstadt. The show features singer, Gesenia and her world-class 6-piece band, who faithfully recreate selections from all phases of Ms. Ronstadt's career, from Country and Rock, through Mexican/Mariachi, and songs from her three Great American Songbook albums with Nelson Riddle. Don't miss this chance to relive those special moments with great hits like *You're No Good, When Will I be Loved, Just One Look, Blue Bayou, That'll be the Day, Perfidia*, and many more!

Each member of the band is a seasoned, talented musician fully dedicated to recreating the sounds and vibe of a Linda Ronstadt live performance from back in the day. But of course, no Ronstadt tribute band can work without "that voice". And if you close your eyes, Gesenia will have you believing that Linda really is with us on the stage. Indeed, the group is so authentic and professional that it has been personally endorsed by three of Linda's own bandmates (two of whom are currently producing the band).

Every show has been met with multiple standing ovations and astonished audiences frequently remark that it was one of the best live-music shows they have ever experienced.

*"There are tribute bands and then there is this. Don't miss it!"*  
- John Beland, guitarist for Linda Ronstadt

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